AIR FARE: What to do, see, eat and buy at the airport | **LookOut Weekend**

express

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Weekend

JOHN MOORE/AP

Saddam also says he was tortured in prison.

Decrying 'Lies': Saddam takes U.S. to task over WMD | 5

Shorter Act: House shrinks Senate's Patriot Act extension | 3

Targeting Tiki: Giants back is 'Skins' top obstacle in key game | 18

ENTERTAINMENT

Running Man: *Johnny Knoxville* stars in the surprisingly sweet comedy 'The Ringer.' Also, 'Munich.'

>> 9-17

Weather >> Partly Sunny

52 | 34

FULL FORECAST ON PAGE 29

JESSIE COHEN/NATIONAL ZOO/REUTERS

Baby, It's Cold Outside

GUIDED TOUR: He made his indoor debut weeks ago, but National Zoo panda cub Tai Shan took a wide-eyed romp around his outdoor enclosure Thursday for the first time under the watchful eye of mother Mei Xiang. He spent about two hours out there, zoo officials said, scampering along the pen's fence and back wall, climbing on fallen tree limbs and getting a little smooch from mom.

Transit Strike in N.Y. Ends

Union goes back to work as contract negotiations resume

NEW YORK | Faced with mounting fines and the rising wrath of millions of commuters, the city transit union sent its members back to work without a new contract and ended a crippling, three-day strike that brought subways and buses to a standstill.

Union members were told Thursday to return to their jobs starting with the evening shift. Most subways were expected to be running by the Friday morning rush.

Bloomberg

The breakthrough came after an all-night session with a mediator. Around midday, leaders of the 33,000-member Transport Workers Union voted to return to work and resume negotiations with the transit authority on a new three-year contract. While the deal put the nation's largest mass transit system back in operation, it did not resolve the underlying dispute — pension contributions were the main sticking point — meaning there could be another walkout if the negotiations fail.

The strike cost the city untold millions in police overtime and lost business and productivity at the height of the Christmas rush and forced millions to carpool, take taxis, ride bicycles or trudge through the freezing cold. DEEPTI HAJELA (AP)

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Express will not publish on Monday or Tuesday. Look for us again Wednesday morning.

APPOINTMENTS | **Gas Their Bedtime** An engineer who was supposed to reconnect a Bristol, England, home's gas supply showed up to do the job at 3:35 a.m., the BBC reported. Michael and Catherine Hopcraft had waited that night for the workman to

come, but, when he didn't show by 11 p.m., they went to bed. The next morning, they found a "sorry we missed you" card from the utility company on the doormat. "Did they really think we would be up?" Michael Hopcraft asked. (EXPRESS) **EyeOpeners** | Page 2

eyeOpeners

PUNISHMENTS

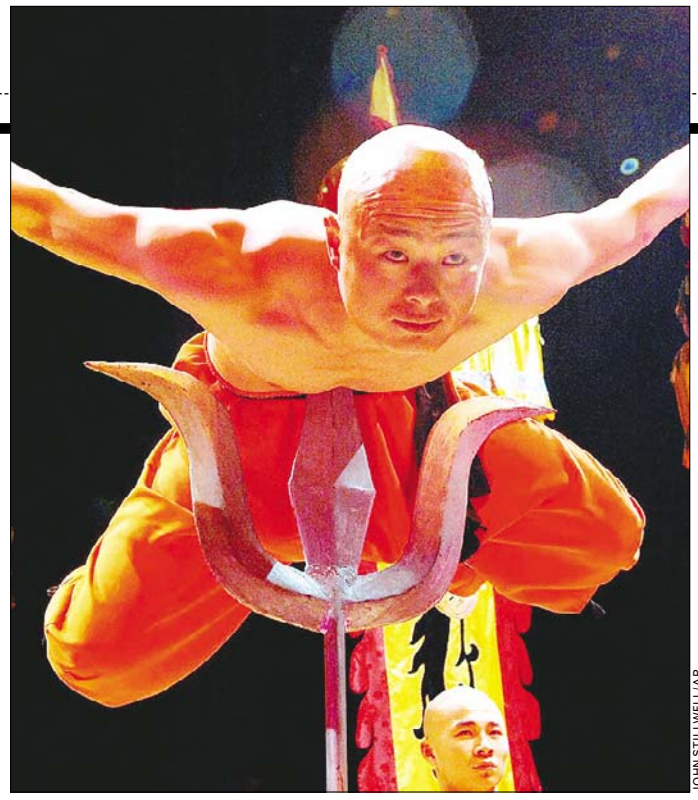
Do It Again, and No More Watching TV

An Arima, Trinidad, teenager was "grounded" Monday by a judge after the youth faked his own kidnapping and told his mother that abductors would send his head home in a bag if she didn't pay a ransom. Magistrate Reynold Waldropt ordered Lyndon Gooding to stay indoors between 5 p.m. and 6:30 a.m. until the end of February. He also put Gooding on probation for the next two years. "You are not to leave unless accompanied by your mother or an adult. In other words, you are grounded," Waldropt said. Gooding was charged with wasting police time. (AP)

SPECIALISTS

Gerbil Podiatrist Sighs in Relief

A judge has ruled that a Jasper, Ind., chiropractor reprimanded by the state last year for treating horses should not have been censured. Pamela Ann Buss filed suit last January after the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners issued a verbal censure and ordered her to not treat animals. But it was ruled Friday that Buss was not acting outside the scope of her education, training and experience. Indiana law states licensed chiropractors can manipulate the spines of individuals during treatment, said Miriam Price, Buss' attorney. "The definition of 'individual' is not limited to a human being," she said. (AP)



JOHN STILLWELL/AP

BALANCE

Stomach Pain

One member of the Chinese Circus is getting some points for his upcoming act — he's seen here balancing on a spear pressed into his stomach on Thursday as he rehearses for a show that starts Friday in London. The troupe's performance will also include plate-spinners, acrobats, gymnasts, contortionists — and a group of high-flying monks, the Shaolin Wu-Shu Warriors. Artists from the Peking Opera will also take part. (EXPRESS)

RED TAPE

But Does He Have The Proper Visa?

The United States is trying to make Santa Claus' job a little easier when he makes the rounds on Christmas Eve. Transportation secretary Norman Mineta said an open-skies agreement with the North Pole gives Santa the go-ahead to deliver presents without having to worry about government paperwork. Santa's reindeer will be allowed to legally land on roofs throughout the country. For years, Santa had been required to make an annual request to the Secretary of Transportation for a special flight certificate. (AP)

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D'OH TANNENBAUM: Rhode Island's state Christmas tree lost all of its needles and died after workers doused it with a fire-retardant chemical. The state's fire code restricts the use of "flammable vegetation."

Nation

In Brief

LOS ANGELES

Hubble Telescope Spots Two More Rings Circling Uranus

Astronomers announced Thursday they found two more rings encircling Uranus using the Hubble telescope. The discovery is the first major find since the Voyager 2 spacecraft flew past the planet nearly two decades ago. The faint, dusty rings orbit outside of Uranus' previously known ring system, but within the orbits of its large moons. (AP)

NORWALK, OH.

Judge Rules Caged Foster Children Were Abused

A couple who adopted 11 children with a host of health and behavioral problems abused some of the youngsters by making them sleep in wooden cages without pillows or mattresses, a judge ruled Thursday. The children will remain in foster care until Juvenile Judge Timothy Cardwell holds a hearing on who should get custody. (AP)

MIAMI

Police: Rape Suspect Had Help in Prison Escape

Serial rape suspect Reynaldo E. Rapalo, 34, who escaped from a Miami area prison on Tuesday night, appeared to have had outside help. Police said he likely used tools that had been smuggled in by an accomplice when he escaped his cell by climbing through a ceiling vent and rappelling down the side of the building on tied-together bed sheets. (AP)

Congress Gives Patriot Act 1 Month

House, Senate agree to shorten extension of controversial law

WASHINGTON | Congress on Thursday approved a one-month extension of the Patriot Act and sent it to President Bush in a pre-Christmas scramble to prevent many of its anti-terrorism provisions from expiring Dec. 31.

The Senate, with only Sen. John Warner, R-Va., present, approved the Feb. 3 expiration date four hours after the House, with a nearly empty chamber, bowed to Rep. James Sensenbrenner's refusal to agree to a six-month extension.

Congress can pass legislation with only a few lawmakers present as long as no member of the House or Senate objects. The Senate session lasted four minutes.

Bush

Sensenbrenner, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, said the shorter extension would force swifter Senate action and had the support of the White House and Speaker Dennis Hastert, D-Ill. The Senate reconvenes Jan. 18 and the House Jan. 26.

"A six-month extension, in my opinion, would have simply allowed the Senate to duck the issue until the last week in June," the Wisconson Republican told reporters.

Most Senate Democrats and a few libertarian-leaning Republicans united against a House-Senate compromise that would have renewed several expiring provisions permanently while extending some other for another four years.

Democrats were pleased with a short-term extension, whether for six months or just a few weeks.

"The amount of time is less important than the good-faith effort that will be needed in improving the Patriot Act to strike the right balance in respecting Americans liberty and privacy, while protecting their security," said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee.

Without action by Congress, several provisions enacted in the days following the 2001 terror attacks would have expired. LAURIE KELLMAN (AP)

Last-minute lawmaking: Get the latest on the Patriot Act in Congress
washingtonpost.com/nation

LOUISIANA | CHRISTMAS AFTER KATRINA

GERALD HERBERT/AP

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS: Gregory Scott displays his homemade Christmas decorations in New Orleans on Thursday. Scott says he only spent three weeks away from his damaged home after Hurricane Katrina struck.

Justice Dept. Defends Domestic Spy Program

Bush administration letter stresses need to fight against terrorism

WASHINGTON | The Bush administration formally defended its domestic spying program in a letter to Congress late Thursday saying the nation's security outweighs privacy concerns of individuals caught up in the surveillance.

In a letter to the chairs of the House and Senate intelligence committees, the Justice Department said President Bush authorized electronic surveillance without first obtaining a warrant in an effort to thwart terrorist acts against the United States.

President Bush has acknowledged he authorized such surveillance and repeatedly has defended it in recent days.

The letter was the administration's first public notice to Congress about the program in which electronic surveillance was conducted without the approval of a special court created to examine requests for wiretaps and searches in terrorism cases. The letter also maintains that the president acted legally.

TONI LOCY (AP)

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Nation

51M **The total number of motorists** expected on the road during the holiday season, a 1.7 percent increase from 2004, despite higher gas prices.

N.Y. Strike Cost Unknown

City officials fear loss of up to $660 million per day of walkout

NEW YORK | Shops without shoppers. Work without workers. For three days, a transit strike in the city that never sleeps forced much of its hard-charging economy to take a fitful nap.

But how much damage did the strike actually inflict on the economy? Probably not nearly as much as city officials claimed, say analysts, noting that even the best guess is just that — a guess.

City officials forecast that $400 million loss only for the first day of the strike, with $300 million lost for each following weekday and $100 million a day if the walkout continued into the weekend. A city economic development group said the damage could reach $440 million to $660 million a day.

SETH WENIG/REUTERS

A pedestrian crosses a nearly empty Fulton Street Mall Thursday. Economic groups forecast the strike could cost the city's economy up to $660 million a day.

The figures struck several economists as being too high, but some costs of the strike are more easily quantified: The city racked up about $10 million a day in overtime pay for police officers during the strike, and lost an estimated $12 million a day in sales taxes, officials said Thursday. ADAM GELLER (AP)

Setback in Miami Plane Crash Probe

MIAMI BEACH, FLA. | Federal investigators suffered a setback when nothing audible was found on the cockpit voice recorder recovered from a seaplane that crashed off Miami Beach.

But recovery of both parts of the plane's cracked wing where it separated from the fuselage and video from the crash will help investigators, Mark Rosenker, chair of the National Transportation Safety Board, said.

The plane bound for the Bahamas crashed on Monday. (AP)

LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Workers in Miami hoist a section of the plane's wreckage Wednesday.

Millions Sign Up For Medicare Prescription Plan

WASHINGTON | About 10 percent of the seniors and disabled people with little or no prescription drug coverage have signed up for Medicare's prescription drug program, the government reported Thursday.

Health and Human Services officials said that the government expects to sign up between 28 million and 30 million. (AP)

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BUBBLY BONANZA: When it comes to celebrating the new year, there is nothing like champagne. Nearly 1 billion euros worth of bubbly were exported from the EU to the rest of the world last year with France leading the way in production.

World

In Brief

NASSER ISHTAYEH/AP

Israeli soldiers scuffle with Palestinians at a checkpoint near Nablus Thursday.

NABLUS, WEST BANK

Tensions Rise on Gaza-Israel Border, 3 Palestinians Killed

Israeli troops killed three Palestinian militants during a raid Thursday in the West Bank city of Nablus, and tension increased on the Gaza-Israel border as militants and the army traded rocket and artillery fire. With homemade rocket attacks increasingly approaching sensitive Israeli sites, an Israeli leader threatened a fierce response, including an invasion by ground troops — a step the Israelis have avoided since their pullout from Gaza in the summer. (AP)

LONDON

Police Charge Another Suspect in Failed Bombings

British police investigating the failed July 21 London bombings on Thursday charged a student with conspiracy to cause explosions, authorities said. London's Metropolitan Police identified the man as 23-year-old Adel Yahya. He was arrested Tuesday at Gatwick Airport. A total of 16 people have now been charged in connection with the attempted attacks. (AP)

KINSHASA, CONGO

War-Weary Voters Seen Approving New Constitution

Votes counted so far in Congo's constitutional referendum show Congo's war-weary voters overwhelmingly favoring a new charter meant to solidify peace, electoral officials said Thursday. With 58 percent of precincts having reported their results, Election official Apollinaire Malu-Malu said 83 percent of voters approved a charter meant to move Congo on from years of war, while 17 percent voted against. (AP)

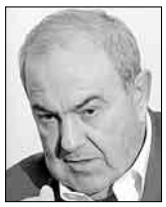
Iraqi Groups Unite to Protest Vote

Sunni Arabs, secular Shiites threaten to boycott new legislature

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | Sunni Arab and secular Shiite factions demanded Thursday that an international body review complaints about voting fraud in last week's elections and threatened to boycott the new legislature. But the United Nations rejected the idea.

"The U.N. is not going to conduct an independent review of the election results," U.N. associate spokesman Robert Sullivan said in New York.

The demand for a review came two days after preliminary returns indicated the current governing group, the Shiite religiously oriented United Iraqi Alliance, was getting bigger than expected majorities in Baghdad, which has large numbers of Shiites and Sunnis.



Allawi

But the criticisms of the election could also be part of jockeying for position by both Sunnis and former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, a secular Shiite, before negotiations begin on forming a new coalition government.

A representative for Allawi described the Dec. 15 vote as "fraudulent" and called the elected lawmakers "illegitimate."

Thirty-five political groups that competed in the vote issued a statement calling for the disbandment of the electoral commission, known as the IECI, because of alleged problems with the balloting.

Although final results are not expected until January, secular Shiites and Sunni Arabs appear alarmed. The formerly dominant Sunni minority, in particular, fears being marginalized by the Shiite majority, which was oppressed during Saddam Hussein's reign.

SINAN SALAHEDDIN (AP)

IRAQ TROOP LEVELS

➜ **Defense Secretary** Donald H. Rumsfeld hinted Thursday that the U.S. military will soon begin reducing its troop strength in Iraq below 138,000, the level it has lately considered its core force in the country. On a surprise visit to Baghdad, Rumsfeld hinted a preliminary decision had been made to achieve the modest reduction by canceling the deployment of two Army brigades. The U.S. briefly built up its forces in Iraq to provide more security for recent elections. (AP)

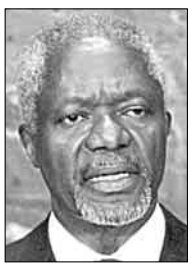
Discontent: The coalition of Iraqi political parties protesting the parilamentary vote warn of a surge in violence if new elections are not held | **Today's Post, A Section**

PHILIPPINES | STAR BRIGHT

AARON FAVILA/AP

HOLIDAY GLOW: A vendor works on one of the Christmas lanterns for sale along a street in Manila, Philippines, on Thursday. Despite the Filipinos' fondness for the colorful lanterns, vendors say sales have dropped this year.

HEARSAY | JOB REQUIREMENTS



"They need thick skin — thick skin. They need a sense of humor, and they should laugh inside and outside, and at themselves."

—UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL KOFI ANNAN
REFLECTING ON THE QUALITIES THE NEXT SECRETARY-GENERAL SHOULD HAVE AS HE HEADS INTO HIS FINAL YEAR AS U.N. CHIEF

In Trial, Saddam Lashes Out Anew at U.S. 'Lies'

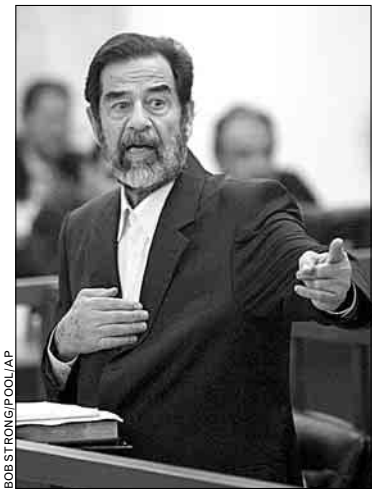
Ex-Iraqi leader blasts denials of his torture, mocks WMD claims

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | Saddam Hussein insisted again Thursday that he had been beaten by his American captors, denouncing Washington's denials as "lies" and mocking President Bush's claim that Baghdad had chemical weapons.

The comments came as Saddam's often-theatrical trial began a monthlong recess following two days of testimony about alleged torture and the deaths of more than 140 Iraqis after a 1982 attempt to kill Saddam in Dujail. The defendants could face death by hanging if convicted.

Like most sessions of the trial so far, Thursday's had its share of drama. A day earlier, Saddam told the court he had been beaten "everywhere" on his body.

On Thursday, Saddam said American denials that he was beaten could not be believed, noting that no weapons of mass destruction had been found in Iraq despite President Bush's prewar claims that Saddam was harboring such weapons.



BOB STRONG/POOL/AP

The trial of Saddam Hussein and his co-defendants adjourned until Jan 24.

"The White House lied when it said Iraq had chemical weapons," Saddam said. "I reported all the wounds I got to three medical committees. ... We are not lying; the White House is lying."

Investigative Judge Raid Juhi told The Associated Press Thursday that Iraqi officials repeatedly asked Saddam and his co-defendants if they had ever been beaten and they answered 'no' every time, contradicting the ousted leader's claim he was abused. MARIAM FAM (AP)

World

MISSING FRENZY: Zookeepers said Thursday that hope is fading for the survival of a stolen baby penguin whose plight has captured the hearts of British animal lovers. "I think we have lost it, it has been too long," said zoo owner Derek Curtis.

SERGEI GRITS/AP

Officials in Russia have been bracing for the impact of China's first toxic spill.

In China, A Rush to Dilute Spill

New river disaster comes as Russia sees arrival of toxic slick

BEIJING | China's government rushed Thursday to shield the country's southern business center, Guangzhou, from a toxic spill of cadmium flowing toward the city of 7 million — the second manmade disaster to hit a Chinese river in six weeks.

Meanwhile, a slick of toxic benzene from the first accident in the north arrived in the Russian city of Khabarovsk, where residents flooded a telephone hot line with calls.

The twin disasters highlight the precarious state of China's water supplies for industry and homes. Regulators say its major rivers are badly polluted and millions of people lack access to clean water.

The accidents are an embarrassment to President Hu Jintao's government, which has promised to clean up environmental damage.

Authorities in southern China were dumping water from reservoirs into the Bei River to dilute the cadmium spill from a smelter. (AP)

A Slow Road to Tsunami Recovery

One year after disaster, Indonesia's Aceh sees starts and stops of aid

SUPRI/REUTERS

STILL IN NEED: Some tsunami survivors in Indonesia's Aceh province still call tent camps home one year after the disaster.

It has been a year since the tsunami laid waste to the isolated Indonesian province of Aceh, but tens of thousands of people still live in a vast archipelago of shanty towns made of scrap wood spit back by the sea. Along the coast, towns and villages remain nothing but swampland and ankle-high rubble. Many people are desperately frustrated.

"We know a lot of money is going to Aceh, but where is it? Where are the buildings? Where is the construction?" demanded Zoelfitri, a 32-year-old man who, like many Indonesians, uses only one name.

But the reality here runs deeper than the devastation, deeper even than the frustration of survivors.

To see only the destruction is to miss what else has come to Aceh since the tsunami: the villages slowly rebuilding with the help of aid workers; the miles of sewage pipes drilled in the rich Aceh soil; the hospital emergency rooms that never filled with victims of post-tsunami disease epidemics.

One year later, Aceh is testament both to the successes and the failures that can come from billions of dollars in aid money.

It wasn't just Aceh that suffered. Sri Lanka, India and Thailand also suffered greatly in the Dec. 26 disaster. The death toll across the dozen nations impacted is at least 216,000 dead and missing.

Indonesia estimated its post-tsunami needs at $5 billion and received pledges totaling $6.5 billion, of which nearly $4.5 billion has been collected, according to the U.N. envoy for tsunami relief.

The aid community insists that reconstruction must be viewed in the long-term, despite pressure many feel from donors to get things done as fast as possible.

"We don't want the situation where the pressure to spend money makes us do things so quickly," said John Sparrow, of the International Red Cross. TIM SULLIVAN (AP)

Pope Benedict XVI: A New Style Icon?

VATICAN CITY | Whether it's Prada and Gucci, or just fancy tailoring, Pope Benedict XVI is his own man when it comes to dressing.

Just days before Christmas, Benedict showed up at his weekly public audience in St. Peter's Square wearing a fur-trimmed stocking cap that could have passed for a Santa Claus hat.

Earlier this month, he made another fashion statement — donning a red cape trimmed in ermine for a papal visit to a statue of the Madonna that marks the beginning of Rome's Christmas season.

Coming after gossip about his wearing Gucci sunglasses and bright red Prada loafers, the vintage styles have turned Benedict into something of a fashion celebrity.

But those who know Joseph Ratzinger from years past dismiss any notion of vanity in the new pope's dressing habits.

"He wouldn't know Gucci from Smoochi," said Marjorie Weeke, a former official at the Vatican's Social Communications office. (AP)

DOMENICO STINELLIS/AP

Pope Benedict XVI is incorporating some new, fresh style in his vestments.

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MIMS THE WORD: Virginia's new attorney-general-elect, Robert McDonnell, named close friend, state Sen. Bill Mims, at left, his chief deputy on Thursday. The appointment was McDonnell's first; he'll take office on Jan. 14.

Local

Stadium Deadline Looms

Williams heads out of town for the holidays without a lease deal

WASHINGTON | With Christmas three days away, Mayor Anthony Williams picked out some last-minute holiday gifts to give friends and family Thursday. But the one thing he really wants under his Christmas tree — a baseball stadium lease approved by the D.C. Council — remained elusive.

"We're all sick of it, we all want to get it done sooner than later," Williams said during a shopping trip to a sporting goods store.

On Monday night, the mayor abruptly asked the D.C. Council to pull the stadium lease from a scheduled vote the next day, after it became clear he lacked the seven votes necessary for the deal to pass the 13-member council. Critics contend Major League Baseball should be paying more, and worry about the city's liability on cost overruns for the proposed $535 million ballpark on the Anacostia River.

Williams said Thursday he wants to reach a stadium deal that is "good for the city." Using his best sports analogy, he said, "We've got to score here, but we still have time. I do believe that."

Dec. 31 is the deadline for the Council to approve the lease, however, Council Chair Linda Cropp has said she does not expect a vote until at least Jan. 3. Williams left Thursday night on a vacation and was expected back Tuesday.

Taking advantage of the store's "buy one, get one half-off" sale on all Washington Nationals merchandise, the mayor purchased a number of baseball caps and stockings.

MATT SMALL (AP)

RICH LIPSKI/THE WP

Mayor Williams shopped for Christmas gifts Thursday, looking for attire in the Nationals, Wizards, Captials and Redskins sections at the City Sports store.

Woman Found Guilty in Fatal Attack by Pit Bulls

Case is first conviction in Va. of manslaughter for the actions of a dog

SPOTSYLVANIA, VA. | A jury on Thursday found a Partlow woman guilty of involuntary manslaughter for allowing her pit bulls to run loose and kill an 82-year-old woman.

Deanna Large, 37, sat quietly in the courtroom. Members of victim Dorothy Sullivan's family wept after the verdict was read.

The case marks the first time in Virginia a person has been convicted of manslaughter for the actions of his or her dog. Large also was found guilty of two misdemeanor charges of allowing her dogs to run loose.

Before jurors began deliberating Large's sentence, Commonwealth's Attorney William Neely argued it was important to set a precedent establishing significant jail time in such cases.

He also cited the gruesome manner in which Sullivan died as he asked for the maximum 10-year sentence. Jurors earlier in the week saw autopsy photos showing pieces of Sullivan's scalp torn away, chunks of flesh torn from her arm and thigh and bites on her ankle down to the bone.

Large

"Do I need to show you those autopsy photos again?" he asked the jury.

One juror replied, "No sir."

Jurors were told about Large's criminal record, including two felony convictions.

Defense attorney Eugene Frost argued for a lighter sentence.

"The lesson is learned," he said.

MATTHEW BARAKAT (AP)

Second Suspect Arrested in 1991 Case

FAIRFAX | A second suspect was under arrest in a decade-old sex assault in Chantilly, police said Thursday.

Troy D. Holland, 37, of Charles Town, W. Va., was indicted on charges including rape and sodomy stemming from a Nov. 2, 1991 attack on a woman. He is being held in West Virginia, awaiting extradition. (AP)

In Brief

SILVER SPRING

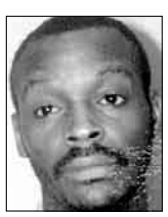
Teen Convicted of Murder in Md. Football-Game Stabbing

A teenage girl accused of stabbing another girl outside a Silver Spring school football game was convicted Thursday of second-degree murder and weapons charges. While acknowledging the dead girl, Kanisha Neal, 15, threw the first punch, the judge said the girl could have run away or yelled for help. Instead, she stabbed Neal five times last Sept. 23 outside James Hubert Blake High School in Silver Spring. (AP)

VIRGINIA

Warner Pardons Two Men Cleared by DNA Evidence

Gov. Mark R. Warner on Thursday pardoned two men wrongfully convicted of sexual assault and recently cleared by a lab review of DNA evidence that had been saved by a forensic scientist. Warner said Willie N. Davidson, 49, and Phillip L. Thurman, 50, were exonerated last Wednesday thanks to the late Mary Jane Burton, who had an unusual habit of saving evidence she handled. Both men had previously been released from prison. (AP)



Thurman

The Lotteries

Thursday, Dec. 22, 2005

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	8-0-5
Evening Lucky Numbers	1-2-0
Mid-day DC 4	5-1-2-4
Evening DC 4	4-7-8-3
Rolling Cash Five	31-32-15-5-24
Daily 6	32-22-30-34-39-5 Bonus: 21
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	10-15-26-32-39 (19)

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	9-1-5
Evening Pick 3	2-6-6
Mid-day Pick 4	0-4-4-7
Evening Pick 4	1-1-0-3
Match 5	8-16-33-35-38 Bonus: 6
Lotto (Wed.)	07-08-19-32-34-38

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Thurs.)	2-4-7
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	7-8-9
Mid-day Pick 4 (Thurs.)	2-6-7-1
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	9-8-9-2
Mid-day Cash 5 (Thurs.)	8-10-27-32-34
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	7-10-22-33-34
Lotto South (Wed.)	6-9-17-23-29-35

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.)	9-12-16-23-43 (17)
Power Play	X3

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Money

HELP LINE: Congress moved Thursday to prevent the Internal Revenue Service from cutting operating hours for toll-free telephone help lines next year. Agency officials had proposed trimming three hours off the daily service to cut costs.

Shareholders OK Sale of Maytag

Rival Whirlpool can proceed in bid to buy company for $1.79B

NEWTON, IOWA | Shareholders of Maytag Corp. on Thursday approved the sale of the company to rival appliance-maker Whirlpool Corp. for about $1.79 billion in cash and stock.

If the transaction is cleared by the U.S. Department of Justice early next year, it will mark the end of the iconic Iowa-based company as an independent appliance manufacturer.

If approved by the government, Maytag shareholders will receive $20 a share, payable half in cash and half in a fraction of Whirlpool stock. The exact amount Maytag shareholders will get in stock depends on the value of Whirlpool shares when the deal closes.

Maytag was founded in 1893 by Fred Maytag, a maker of farm tools, who introduced a wooden-tub washing machine 14 years later.

CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/AP

Maytag shareholders in Newton, Iowa leave after voting to sell the company.

Ed Trost, 79, of Newton, said the merger is the only future for the company. He said Maytag was slow to react to the softening appliance market and increased foreign competition.

"It's heartbreaking," said Trost, who worked for Maytag for 35 years. "You go through life thinking it's going to be here forever, but that's not materializing now." (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Novelis n	19.37	+2.89	+17.5
Humana	55.29	+6.97	+14.4
HeclaM	3.88	+.43	+12.5
Fairchild	2.56	+.28	+12.3
MarineP s	11.46	+1.22	+11.9

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
TDK	64.20	-12.55	-16.4
Russell	13.58	-1.14	-7.7
PlaytxPd	14.45	-.99	-6.4
LLE Ry	3.10	-.17	-5.2
Magntk	3.12	-.16	-4.9

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
IbisTech	2.03	+.36	+21.6
AthrGnc	19.74	+3.24	+19.6
Sanyo	14.05	+2.05	+17.1
Biocryst	17.59	+2.38	+15.6
OmniEnr	3.28	+.40	+13.9

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
ChrlsClvrd	21.47	-9.64	-31.0
HudsonHi s	18.92	-7.42	-28.2
ComsysIT	11.41	-3.27	-22.3
ExideTc	3.51	-.56	-13.8
VocalTec n	11.20	-1.70	-13.2

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
+55.71	+14.83	+5.33
+0.51	+0.66	+0.42
10889.44	2246.49	1268.12

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	7.25	7.25
Fed Funds close	4.25	4.1325
3-month	3.92	3.85
2-year	4.39	4.35
10-year	4.43	4.46
30-year	4.61	4.67

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5759	.5740	.5224
Canadian Dollar	1.1660	1.1676	1.2442
European Euro	.8421	.8453	.7473
Japanese Yen	116.55	117.21	104.08
Mexican Peso	10.6390	10.6200	11.1620
Taiwanese Dollar	33.25	33.25	32.28

Pharmacy Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
Allergan	109.85	+2.54	+35.5
AstraZen	48.40	+.35	+33.0
BarrPhm	61.52	+1.24	+35.1
BrMySq	22.87	+.24	-10.7
ForestLab	41.79	+.56	-6.8
Hospira	44.00	-.06	+31.3
IvaxCorp	32.25	+.42	+103.9
JohnJn	61.32	+.44	-3.3
LillyEli	57.12	+.12	+.7
Merck	32.01	+.08	-.4
MylanLab	20.20	+.09	+14.3
Pfize	24.06	+.02	-10.5
SchergPl	20.88	-.03	...
Sepracor	53.43	+.84	-10.0
Wyeth	46.77	+.70	+9.8

Microsoft Threatened With Hefty Fine

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM | The European Union on Thursday threatened to fine Microsoft Corp. up to $2.37 million a day for failing to obey its 2004 antitrust ruling, accusing the company of intransigence in sharing information with competitors.

The threat of new sanctions against Microsoft aims to force it to provide more detailed information so competitors' products can be made more compatible with Microsoft's Windows server operating system.

Brad Smith, Microsoft's top lawyer, accused the EU Commission of threatening the fine before it had even reviewed documentation he said Microsoft sent to European officials on Wednesday.

EU spokesman Jonathan Todd said the EU had not yet received copies of the documents. (AP)

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TELEVISION
Yule Watch: And you'll like it. TV's Yule Log, that flickering, hypnotic vision of synthetic holiday cheer, returns to confuse viewers | **17**

Entertainment Weekend

Terrorist Circles

'Munich' explores the deadly roundelay of hate, fear and attack

FILM | With "Munich," Steven Spielberg will please plenty of people who worried he would sanitize the story of the 1972 Olympics massacre and the reprisals Israel took over the slayings of its athletes and coaches by Palestinian terrorists.

He'll tick off a whole lot of other people for different reasons.

Arabs won't be thrilled to have a chapter of Palestinian extremism laid open to painful dramatization. Some Jews already are branding "Munich" a betrayal of Israel for what they call its sympathetic treatment of Arab extremists and its depiction of Mossad assassins hunting the perpetrators as bloodthirsty avenging angels.

There is enough sympathy, as well as condemnation, to go around for virtually all of Spielberg's characters. This is a morally complex story about morally agonizing matters and the characters evoke both compassion and repugnance.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

VENGEANCE: The story of the Munich killings and what came after still resonates.

"Munich" opens in frantic docudrama style, mixing vintage news coverage with Spielberg's re-creation as members of the Palestinian terror group Black September infiltrate the Olympic Village, beginning a hostage standoff that would result in the deaths of 11 Israelis.

Israel responds from behind closed doors, tapping intelligence officer Avner (Eric Bana) to lead an undercover team to assassinate Black September figures suspected of plotting the Munich massacre.

The shadowy Ephraim (Geoffrey Rush) becomes the group's handler and cheerleader, trying to keep Avner in the fold as the covert hunt and bloody retribution take an emotional toll.

Avner has been hand-picked by Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir (Lynn Cohen) as a true devotee, yet the film presents an absorbing study of how people of zealous faith come to doubt their cause, turn paranoid and begin to question the motives of superiors.

Spielberg's intent is to chronicle how decades of reciprocal hate and violence continue to escalate unless someone pulls back and says, "Enough." He succeeds in creating a film very much rooted in the political turmoil of its time, yet which resonates powerfully amid today's ongoing strife.

DAVID GERMAIN (AP)

20TH CENTURY FOX

SMART MOVES: Steve (Johnny Knoxville) flirts with a friendly coach.

'The Ringer': Pretty Special

A jerk gets his comeuppance from Special Olympians

FILM | Just the idea behind "The Ringer" is enough to make you cringe: Johnny Knoxville stars as an average guy who pretends he's mentally challenged in order to rig the Special Olympics.

It could have been painful to watch in its political incorrectness or as an insufferably feel-good life lesson. But it's surprisingly funny and, yes, inspirational, without trying too hard.

Needing $28,000 for a friend's surgery, Knoxville's Steve Barker goes to his loser Uncle Gary. Gary comes up with the idea to have Steve compete against Jimmy Washington (Leonard Flowers), a six-time gold medalist in the Special Olympics, in order to reap the benefits of gambling on the games.

Flowers is totally believable as an arrogant track star who arrives in a limo and wears metallic-gold running shoes.

He makes it, but it doesn't take long for his new friends to figure out he's faking. Still, the guys help him keep up his ruse because they're so sick of seeing Jimmy win every year.

It's the scenes that showcase actors who have developmental disabilities — actual Special Olympians — that buzz with the most unexpected comic energy. More often than not, you'll find yourself laughing with "The Ringer," right along with the characters.

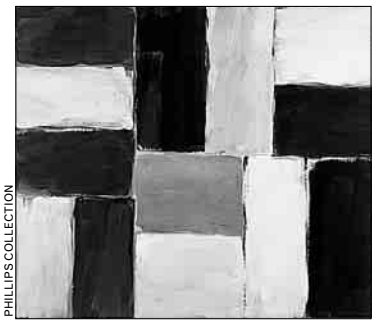
CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)

Got Plans?

FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

Do you know if the museums and zoo are open on Monday the 26th?
All of the Smithsonian museums and the zoo are closed on the 25th and open on the 26th. The Phillips Collection, which is usually closed on Mondays, has decided to open its doors on the 26th as well.

Phillips Collection, 1600 21st St. NW; 202-387-2151.



PHILLIPS COLLECTION

Sean Scully's "Wall of Light" show at the Phillips is a good post-Christmas bet.

Are there any bars in Arlington's Clarendon/Courthouse area that will be open on Christmas night? Help the lonely seeking that warming shot of Jägermeister.
Dr. Dremo's, the Four Courts, Clarendon Grill and Whitlow's are closed on Christmas. Galaxy Hut is opening at 9 p.m., and there's no band at Iota, but the bar will be open. Merry Christmas, and make your New Year's resolution to avoid the Jägermeister. Bourbon does the job much better.

Dr. Dremo's Taphouse, 2001 Clarendon Blvd.; 703-528-4660.

Ireland's Four Courts, 2051 Wilson Blvd.; 703-525-3600.

Clarendon Grill, 1101 N. Highland St.; 703-524-7455.

Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd.; 703-276-9693.

Galaxy Hut, 2711 Wilson Blvd.; 703-525-8646.

Iota Club & Cafe, 2832 Wilson Blvd.; 703-522-8340.

The Going Out Gurus think you should get out more. Join the discussion Thursdays at 1 p.m. | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

TWO THUMBS UP? Or 10 toes? Get the verdict on the latest film releases in today's Washington Post.

Glitter and Be Gay: The darkly whimsical "Breakfast on Pluto" is, like its central character, the flamboyant Kitten, charming but ultimately detached. Desson Thomson reviews. | *Weekend*

Crossing Over: Ann Hornaday finds the road map a little confining, but "Transamerica" introduces viewers to a unique character in Felicity Huffman's transsexual Bree. | *Weekend*

Copycat: "Rumor Has It" is a lifeless romantic comedy that uses the saucy liaison central to 1963's "The Graduate" for its premise. Desson Thomson reviews, with regrets. | *Weekend*

Weekend | Entertainment

Now Playing

AEON FLUX (PG-13, 95 minutes) Played by Charlize Theron in leather and spike heels, our title character works for the "Monican" underground against the police-state society of Bregna, some 400 years from now. After an "industrial disease" wiped out 99 percent of the world's population in 2011, a leader known as Trevor Goodchild (Marton Csokas) and his brother Oren (Jonny Lee Miller) developed a cure. Now there are 5 million in Bregna, a city whose walls protect them from the blight outside. Aeon gets her marching orders to destroy the central spying hub and assassinate Trevor. Theron is appropriately slinky and gymnastic, but with the exception of a few action scenes, this movie is surprisingly draggy. (DT)

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R, 134 minutes) From the moment Ennis Del Mar (Heath Ledger) and Jack Twist (Jake Gyllenhaal) meet while applying for jobs herding sheep in Wyoming, it's just a matter of when, not if. That consummation is a brief, violent, loveless episode that over their first summer together becomes an idyll of half-naked wrestling, nuzzling by the campfire and fist fights that end in an embrace. They won't meet again until four years later, and over the next several years, the two men will have to be satisfied with fishing trips on Brokeback Mountain during which no fish will be caught. Ledger is especially impressive as the withdrawn, emotionally stunted Ennis. As a tragic evocation of the costs of homophobia — not just to closeted gay people but to their families and loved ones — the film is indeed a watershed. But as a testament to the importance of following one's passion, it's devoid of one crucial thing: passion. (AH)

Jan Barry of Vietnam Veterans Against the War at the Winter Soldier conference.

CAPOTE (R, 98 minutes) It is a comical image: fey, mincing, piping little Truman Capote in his cashmere scarf tiptoeing around the bleak wheat-field burg of Holcomb, Kan., in the wake of some horrific murders about which he admits he doesn't really care. As Capote, Philip Seymour Hoffman makes you believe in the man: an artist's personality, ruthless and shrewd; a hysteric's delicate grasp of his emotions; a charmer whose wiles could wear down even the wary Kansas lawmen. (SH)

CHICKEN LITTLE (G, 78 minutes) Based on the old tale, and the image of ardent, mythological stupidity — the chicken who thought the sky was falling when an acorn fell on its head — this computer-animated gee-whizzer takes the story one more crank toward the literal. When the thing hits Chicken Little, it turns out it is a piece of the sky: The sky is falling. The movie then wittily finds a way to morph into a fabulous parody of "War of the Worlds," possibly a bit intense in parts for the smallest of beings. The animators are fabulous and full of mischief, weaving enough ironic amusements into the story for the longer of tooth. (SH)

THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG, 140 minutes) Andrew Adamson's sterling version of the perdurable C.S. Lewis classic of children's fantasy is well told, handsome, stirring and loads of fun. Taken at face value, the film decodes into a kind of dashing view of colonialism for the prepubescent set, an empire-and-faith fable set in a fantasy world whose relation to the real one will be, for adults, its most fascinating element. For kids, the pleasure will be in some of the best special effects of the year. And for both, the overarching endearment will be a narrative, which speeds through its two-hour-plus running time. Of note, the movie rides its PG rating right to the very edge; its evocation of animal death and battlefield mayhem and jeopardy to children is extremely powerful, and some kids may find it disturbing. (SH)

DARWIN'S NIGHTMARE (Unrated, 107 minutes) This film fully lives up to its chilling title, a cinema verite journey to the heart of darkness — not the heart of Africa, where it transpires, but to the murkiest reaches of human apathy and despair. The documentary, which was made by Austrian filmmaker Hubert Sauper, examines a phenomenon that took root 40 years ago in Lake Victoria,

Rolling Stone
"HERE IS THE JAW-DROPPING, EYE-POPPING, HEART-STOPPING MOVIE EPIC WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR ALL YEAR."
Peter Travers

Ebert & Roeper "Two thumbs way up."®

Newsweek "Thrilling! Epic! 'King Kong' is a surprisingly tender, even heartbreaking film." Devin Gordon

Entertainment Weekly "'King Kong' sets the new standard. The entertainment is so full, funny, and unexpectedly moving." Lisa Schwarzbaum

TODAY "Peter Jackson has created a spellbinding epic. 'King Kong' is so gargantuan that I must create new words to describe it: fabularious... a brilliantological humongousness of marvelosity." Gene Shalit

Good Morning America "It's like being nine years old at the movies all over again. It's that thrilling, that exciting, this is one of those movies that's so much fun." Joel Siegel

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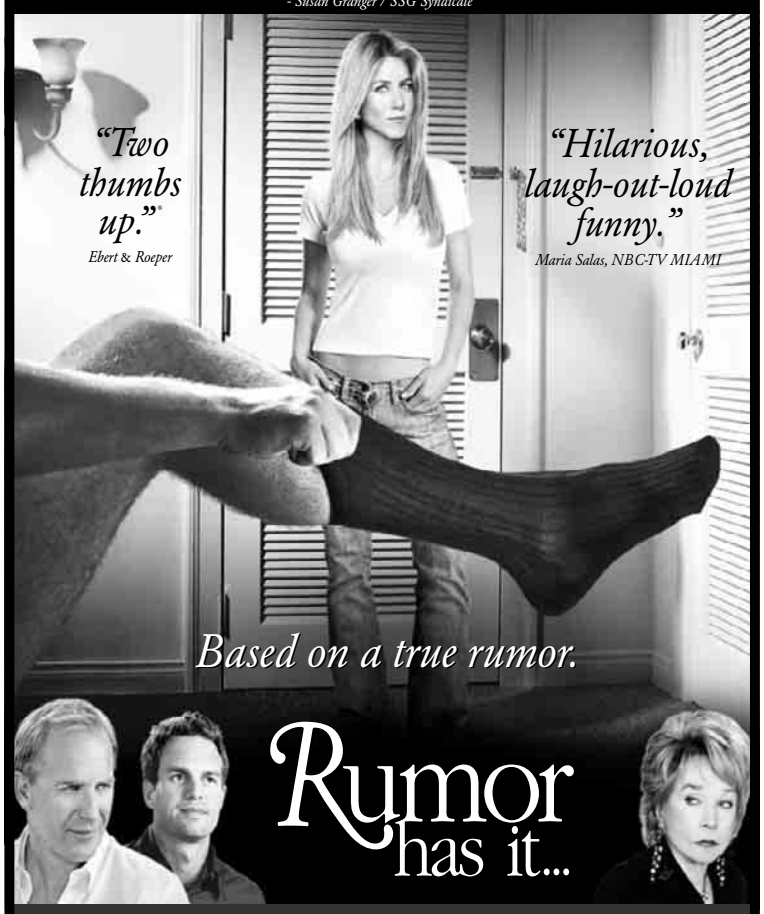

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in Tanzania, where, as a "little scientific experiment," the Nile perch was introduced to the thriving aquatic ecosystem. In short order, the voracious fish ate everything in its path, including other fish and the lake's plant species. It turns out that, for Sauper, the Nile perch is an apt metaphor for the First World and its rapacious exploitation of Africa's natural resources. (AH)

DERAILED (R, 120 minutes) This film is fast, slick, stupid, violent fun and, despite the cynically high body count, without serious intention in this world. It is set in motion when Charlie (Clive Owen) has an affair with Lucinda (Jennifer Aniston), whom he has met on a train. They're trysting the night away when suddenly feral man enters, in the form of Philippe Laroche (Vincent Cassel). He pistol-whips Charlie, rapes Lucinda, takes money, credit cards, cell phones, dignity and any sense of the universe as rational. Then Philippe calls Charlie: He wants money. What can Charlie do? Eventually, the movie waltzes toward the absurd, the unbelievable, then veering back toward some sort of just-marginal believability. (SH)

THE FAMILY STONE (PG-13, 102 minutes) Braying, self-righteous, predictable, morally superior and, worst of all, loud, the Stones are the subject of this film, which means to celebrate them but only denigrates. They live the good life in a generic Northeastern suburb, and the ordeal that unites them in scorn and smugness this Christmas season is the arrival of favorite and most successful son Everett (Dermot Mulroney) with his soon-to-be fiancee, Meredith (Sarah Jessica Parker). She's an emissary from the empire of repression, which makes her a mortal enemy of the wonderful Stones. There are many ways to define the shrieking awfulness of this movie, from the general lack of wit to the cheap exploitation of cancer to its casual cruelty, but it's the casting that really goes haywire. (SH)

GO FOR ZUCKER (Unrated, 95 minutes) Jacky Zucker is a hustler, an aging wastrel who makes his living cadging bets on pool games in Berlin, a cigarette dangling from his mouth. He's a self-described "typical reunification loser," but he has inescapable appeal. For most of his life, Jacky was a committed secular communist, having shortened his name from Zuckermann when he was a young man. But when his mother dies and his Orthodox Jewish brother Samuel (Udo Samel) arrives on the scene with his Orthodox family, a seemingly endless — and antic — stream of encounters, deceptions and revelations ensues. (AH)

COLUMBIA PICTURES

SPLASHDANCE: Zhang Ziyi is the exquisite but passionless center of "Geisha."

GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG-13, 93 minutes) George Clooney, who directed and co-wrote, retells the story of crusading journalist Ed Murrow, who stood up to braying political bully Joe McCarthy. The stylizations of '50s TV drama, including black-and-white cinematography, are terrific. Clooney casts himself as Murrow's producer, Fred W. Friendly, but hardly registers. Neither do any of the other CBS minions, even though they're played by such names as Jeff Daniels, Robert Downey Jr. and Patricia Clarkson. Only two people register, David Strathairn as Murrow and Joe McCarthy as Joe McCarthy. Strathairn dominates the movie with furious intelligence, guts, will and nobility. (SH)

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Jack Black points and shoots in "Kong."

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13, 160 minutes) This is probably the most engaging Potter film of the series thus far. Our central character, Hogwarts student Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe) is possibly more intimidated by girls than by dragons. Harry just got drafted, mysteriously, into the international Triwizard Tournament. As if that wasn't enough, a large skull-and-snake apparition has appeared in the skies, a signal that the evil Lord Voldemort (Ralph Fiennes) has returned. Readers of the J.K. Rowling novels may be disappointed that many details from the book have been altered or omitted. But as long as those readers appreciate large-scale action and smaller-scale interaction, they'll be happy. (DT)

JARHEAD (R, 120 minutes) Set in 1991 during the first Gulf War, this movie is a kind of lightweight variation on Stanley Kubrick's "Full Metal Jacket," with its evocation of the institution known as the United States Marine Corps, its love of the profane poetry of sergeants and the bond felt by young men locked in a common ordeal. It's a portrait of Swofford and his band of gyrene brothers, wandering haplessly around, looking for action while trying to overcome the soldier's truest enemy, ennui. Jake Gyllenhaal plays "Swoff," as he's called, and what's so good about the movie is Gyllenhaal's refusal to show off; he doesn't seem jealous of the camera's attention when it goes to others and is content, for long stretches, to serve simply as a prism though which other young men can be observed. (SH)

JUST FRIENDS (PG-13, 94 minutes) In high school, Chris (Ryan Reynolds) was perennially cast as "best friend," never "coolest guy." Thus he could not ever become romantic object to "school's coolest girl," Jamie (Amy Smart). She liked him just the way he was: fat, clumsy, funny, unthreatening. Ten years later, Chris, who has shed a thousand or so pounds, tries to face his past — Jamie, now a bartender. What Chris seems most interested in might be called a revenge tryst: Now cool, he thinks he can sweep her off her feet and get out of town having achieved a lifelong goal. Of course he falls in love again. The movie gets surprisingly better as it progresses. (SH)

THE KEEPER: THE LEGEND OF OMAR KHAYYAM (PG, 95 minutes) Twelve-year-old Kamran (Adam Echahly) accepts a weighty responsibility: preserving the memory of his 11th-century ancestor. Kamran, an Iranian-American who lives in modern-day Houston, is thrilled to become his family's "keeper," the one who must pass along the story of Omar Khayyam. He hears the story of the great mathematician, philosopher and poet in installments, and as he listens, we are privy to his imaginings: Omar (Bruno

Continued on page 12

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Weekend | Entertainment

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Continued from page 11

Lastra) and a childhood friend, Hassan Sabbah (Christopher Simpson), grow up in love with a slave girl called Darya (Marie Espinosa). The movie hopscotches between past and present, paying tribute to the great scientist-poet, to oral tradition and a rich culture. But the movie's intentions are like the starry constellations that inspire the eponymous hero: out of reach. (DT)

KING KONG (PG-13, 187 minutes) Sticking close to the original, both in story and milieu, this film features Jack Black as energetic film entrepreneur Carl Denham, who hires a tramp steamer, tricks playwright Jack Driscoll (Adrien Brody), movie star Bruce Baxter (Kyle Chandler) and untested actress Ann Darrow (Naomi Watts) into joining him on Skull Island, where he plans to shoot a film against a heretofore unseen background. There he discovers a 25-foot-tall ape whom the natives call Kong and to whom they offer apparently virgin-bride sacrifices. But Kong sees Darrow and falls in hot monkey love. The movie is full of mesmerization, astonishment, thrills, chills, spills, kills and ills, a big monkey picture show that's certainly the best popular entertainment of the year. (SH)

FOCUS FEATURES

BROKEHEART MOUNTAIN: Jake Gyllenhaal with Anne Hathaway in "Brokeback."

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13, 120 minutes) This movie is everything you'd expect it to be: beautiful, mesmerizing, tasteful, Japanese. It's just not very hot. Derived from Arthur Golden's phenomenally successful novel, it's the story of Sayuri Nitta (Ziyi Zhang), born Chiyo, the daughter of a poor fisherman who becomes one of Japan's most revered geishas in the 1930s. It stars three of the world's most beautiful women — Zhang, Gong Li and Michelle Yeoh — and it's set in the inner world of the geisha. Yet it just sits there, glorious but never remotely enticing. (SH)

PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG, 128 minutes) This version of Jane Austen's fabled story, in which Lizzie Bennet and Mr. Darcy begin as fiery opponents and end up as married lovers, is not quite the taming of a shrew, because in Austen's worldview, leading ladies of beauty and wit weren't shrews and never had to be tamed, but merely loved and respected, and good things would follow. That's the main trajectory of this film, starring Keira Knightley as Elizabeth and Matthew MacFadyen as the initially dour, snotty Mr. Darcy. (SH)

RENT (PG-13, 135 minutes) Musicals are not for the literal-minded, and that proba-

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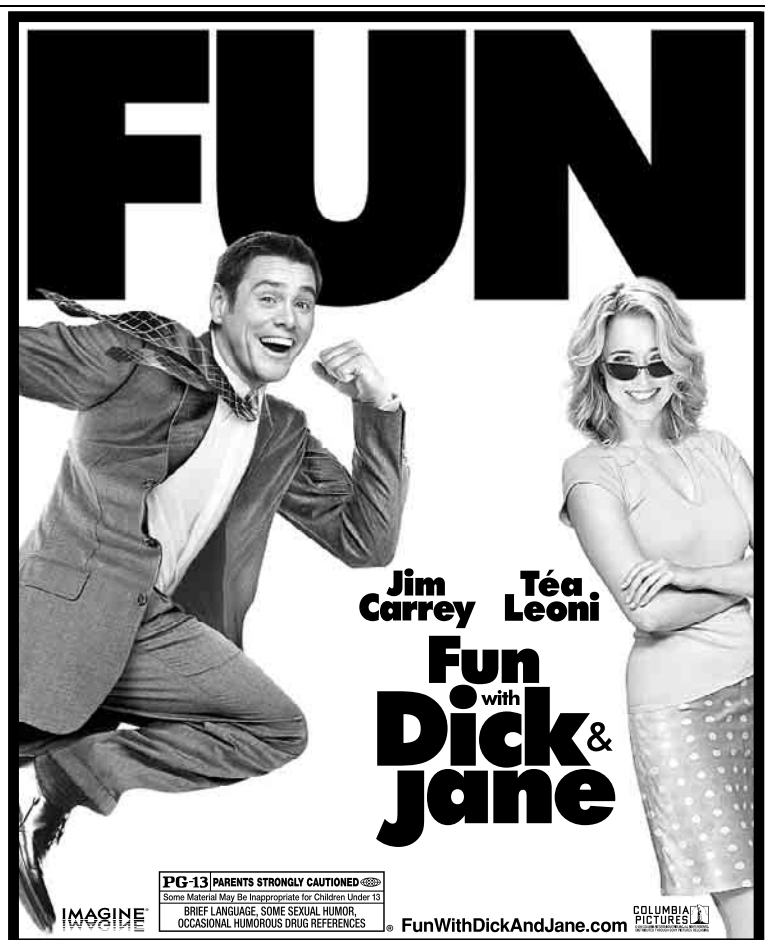

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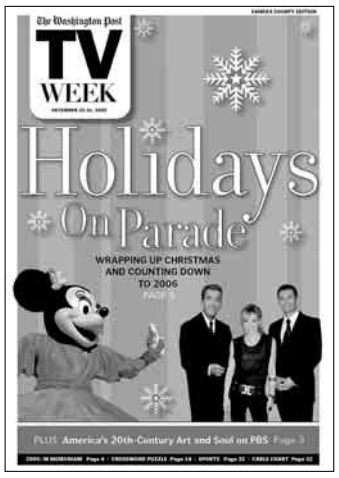

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Ice, Ice, Baby: Washington's own figure-skating champ Michael Weiss talks about past mishaps and his immediate future — his third Olympics. | *Sunday Source*

Entertainment | Weekend

Now Playing

bly should have ruled out Chris Columbus as the man to bring Broadway's long-running hit to the screen. He labors mightily to make the movie look and feel like something that genuinely bubbled up from the mean streets of Alphabet City at the height of AIDS angst. The thing that made the stage version a hit, and has kept it running, was Jonathan Larson's arresting score. Columbus preserves it, but he doesn't work with it. He just stands in slack-jawed awe and rolls camera. It would have been better by far to stay cocooned within the propulsive music and its parallel universe of inflated emotions. (NELSON PRESSLEY)

SARAH SILVERMAN: JESUS IS MAGIC (R, 72 minutes) When it comes to Sarah Silverman, the best thing to do is simply sit back and listen. The fact that she shouldn't be saying those things and you shouldn't be laughing at them makes it even more deliciously painful. There are song parodies, trips backstage, but it's all just filler to stretch 40 golden minutes of inspired stand-up to 72 minutes. You sit there thinking, good lord, does she mean it? She can't mean it! Can she say that? Can we laugh? (SH)

FIRST RUNFEATURES

MOURNING GLORY: A slapstick moment in the German comedy "Go for Zucker."

THE SQUID AND THE WHALE (R, 81 minutes) Set in Brooklyn in 1986, this movie is piercing and forthright. When Bernard (Jeff Daniels) and Joan (Laura Linney) Berkman inform their children, 16-year-old Walt (Jesse Eisenberg) and 12-year-old Frank (Owen Kline), they're getting a divorce, it's the beginning of an emotional whirlwind for four very different people. The movie is so brutally honest at times, you can almost sense the real Baumbachs squirming, twitching, tut-tutting and maybe even nodding their heads. Whatever their reaction, this story doesn't just belong to them anymore. This richly observed, sometimes heartbreaking movie has become ours, too. (DT)

SYRIANA (R, 126 minutes) George Clooney plays CIA operative Bob Barnes, an avuncular career agent who used to know where all the bodies were buried — mainly because he did most of the digging. In the 1980s, the Cold War made things morally easy, but the CIA no longer needs seasoned agents like him; it's all satellite reconnaissance and missile button pushing these days. So what becomes of an obsolete foot soldier? This is a premium-octane thriller about a society that has become insidiously dependent on oil. What's so powerful about the film is the rich stories it tells and how it leads them like so many human tributaries to one black, bubbling source. (DT)

WALK THE LINE (PG-13, 136 minutes) This movie gets off to a promising start, sure to raise goose bumps, at the gates of Folsom Prison in 1968. The camera makes its way slowly into the jail, and finally, after an excruciating, exhilarating eternity, we see Johnny Cash — played, in an uncanny performance, by Joaquin Phoenix — as he drinks a glass of water and contemplates a buzz

Continued on page 14

'TIS THE SEASON TO SEE JOHNNY!

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Weekend | Entertainment

Now Playing

Continued from page 13

saw. We're hooked, and he hasn't sung a note. Unfortunately, for all its good music and admirable vocal impersonations, the movie slides — very, very slowly — downhill from there. (AH)

WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT (G, 85 minutes) Directed by Nick Park and Steve Box, the feature film debut of Wallace and Gromit opens with the dotty English inventor and his quietly superior dog working at yet another ingenious business called Anti-Pesto, which humanely removes four-legged creatures from their town's vegetable gardens. Things are just swell until the gardens are vandalized by the King Kong of rabbits. Gromit, who might be the most expressive silent movie star since Buster Keaton, is pure magic. (AH)

20TH CENTURY FOX

SAY 'CLICHÉ'! The uptight girlfriend meets the warm-and-friendly "Family Stone."

WINTER SOLDIER (Unrated, 95 minutes) It will come as a surprise to most filmgoers that they've been waiting 30 years to see this documentary. But now that they have the chance, they won't want to miss it. This extraordinary film, having its first theatrical release, not only revisits events during the Vietnam War that have uncanny resonance today but also stands as a riveting example of pure filmic storytelling. It is an unadorned, black-and-white record of a three-day gathering in Detroit in 1971, turning the camera on the testimony of former soldiers invited by Vietnam Veterans Against the War to share accounts of atrocities they committed or witnessed. The result is a spellbinding film that achieves impressive power through little more than the spoken word. (AH)

YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG, 88 minutes) Dennis Quaid plays Frank Beardsley, a Coast Guard officer, widower and loving father of eight. At a high school reunion, he meets and falls back in love with former sweetheart Helen North (Rene Russo), who has 10 children and, like Frank, is widowed. When Frank and Helen impulsively get married, parenting systems collide. The storyline is so familiar, the audience can practically call out scenes ahead of time. (DT)

ZATHURA (PG, 102 minutes) Based on the book by Chris Van Allsburg, this movie introduces us to 6-year-old Danny (Jonah Bobo) and 10-year-old Walter (Josh Hutcherson). One day when his father is at work, Danny discovers Zathura, an old-fashioned board game with a windup key, a "Go" button and a miniature spaceship that whirs along the game board. That little spaceship springs to life and — ding! — up pops a card with a message: "Meteor Shower — Take Evasive Action." The movie has an almost antique charm, which recalls the 1950s sci-fi movies. (DT)

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MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) Ⓓ CC ✓ 1:00, 4:30, 8:00, 11:30
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 11:40, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 3:00, 4:20, 5:25, 7:05, 9:35
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 11:15, 2:00, 4:25, 7:10, 8:05, 9:40, 10:35, 12:00
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) ✓ 10:30, 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45
KING KONG (PG13) ✓ 10:45, 11:45, 12:45, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:45, 9:45, 10:45, 11:15, 11:45
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 10:40, 12:40, 1:40, 2:10, 4:10, 5:10, 7:40, 8:40, 11:10
JUST FRIENDS (PG13) 1:55, 7:55
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 11:25, 3:25, 6:55, 10:20
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 10:35, 4:35, 10:40
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 10:50, 1:05

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MUNICH (R) 1:30, 5:00, 8:30, 12:00
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) 11:40, 1:05, 2:55, 4:35, 6:00, 7:45, 9:10, 10:55, 12:25
THE RINGER (PG13) 11:55, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20, 11:40
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) 10:50, 11:50, 1:25, 2:25, 3:50, 4:50, 6:25, 7:30, 8:55, 9:55, 11:30, 12:20
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) 12:15, 2:00, 3:00, 4:45, 5:40, 7:10, 8:10, 9:50, 10:35, 12:15
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 12:10, 2:30, 5:15, 6:40, 7:40, 9:40, 10:25, 12:10
KING KONG (PG13) 10:45, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:45, 2:45, 3:30, 4:00, 4:30, 5:05, 5:45, 6:45, 7:35, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00, 9:45, 10:45, 11:25
KING KONG (PG13) Ⓓ CC 12:30, 4:30, 8:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 11:45, 12:25, 1:40, 3:05, 3:45, 4:55, 6:15, 7:05, 8:15, 9:30, 10:15, 12:30
SYRIANA (R) 12:20, 3:20, 6:30, 9:35, 12:30
AEON FLUX (PG13) 11:20 PM
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 11:35, 1:50, 4:10
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 11:50, 3:25, 6:55, 10:20
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 1:10, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 11:15 AM

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CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 12:45, 2:55, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:00
KING KONG (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 4:00, 6:05, 8:00, 9:50
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:00, 12:30, 3:00, 3:45, 6:15, 7:00, 9:10
SYRIANA (R) 1:00, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05
AEON FLUX (PG13) 9:55 PM
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 12:15 PM
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:20, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) Ⓓ CC 12:20, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00

COLUMBIA MALL 14
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MUNICH (R) ✓ 11:10, 2:50, 6:35, 10:10
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 3:50, 7:10, 10:20
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) Ⓓ CC ✓ 12:20, 3:50, 7:10, 10:20
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 12:15, 2:45, 5:25, 7:50, 10:40
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 11:15, 1:55, 4:30, 7:45, 10:30
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 11:45, 2:30, 5:00, 8:00, 10:35
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) ✓ 1:15, 4:10, 7:20, 9:55, 12:10
KING KONG (PG13) ✓ 11:00, 12:00, 2:15, 3:15, 4:15, 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 10:15, 11:15
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 4:00, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:00, 12:20
SYRIANA (R) 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
AEON FLUX (PG13) 10:45 PM
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 12:05 PM
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:10, 3:30, 7:00
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 10:25 PM

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CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) ✓ 1:45, 4:50, 7:45, 10:10
KING KONG (PG13) ✓ 11:30, 12:30, 3:30, 4:30, 7:30, 8:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:00, 1:00, 3:15, 4:10, 6:30, 7:20, 9:45, 10:30
SYRIANA (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:45, 4:40, 8:00

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CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 7:50, 10:10
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) 1:00, 3:20, 5:50, 8:10, 10:40
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 1:00, 4:30, 7:40, 10:00
KING KONG (PG13) 12:30, 1:30, 4:30, 5:30, 8:20, 9:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:40, 1:40, 4:20, 5:20, 7:20, 8:20, 10:20
AEON FLUX (PG13) 1:30, 4:50, 8:10, 10:20
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 12:40, 3:00, 5:10, 7:50, 10:00
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:30, 3:50, 7:10, 10:20

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THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 11:45, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 11:15, 1:40, 4:15, 7:30, 9:55
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 11:30, 1:50, 4:30, 7:45, 10:05
KING KONG (PG13) ✓ 11:15, 12:00, 3:15, 4:00, 7:15, 8:00, 11:05
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15

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MUNICH (R) ✓ 12:10, 3:50, 7:20, 10:50
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) ✓ 1:00, 4:30, 7:50, 11:00
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 10:45, 1:05, 3:30, 5:50, 8:20, 10:55
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) ✓ 10:50, 11:50, 1:30, 2:30, 4:10, 5:00, 6:50, 7:40, 9:30
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 10:30, 11:40, 12:40, 2:10, 3:10, 4:40, 5:40, 7:10, 8:10, 9:40, 10:40
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) ✓ 11:20, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
KING KONG (PG13) ✓ 10:30, 11:00, 12:00, 12:50, 2:20, 3:05, 4:00, 5:10, 6:10, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:10, 11:00
KING KONG (PG13) Ⓓ CC ✓ 11:00, 3:05, 7:00, 11:00
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:05, 1:10, 3:15, 4:20, 6:30, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30
SYRIANA (R) 1:25, 4:55, 7:50, 10:45
AEON FLUX (PG13) 8:00, 10:25
YOURS, MINE & OURS (PG) 11:30, 1:50, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 11:50, 3:25, 6:40, 9:55
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 10:05 PM
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 10:40, 12:45, 3:00, 5:30

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THE RINGER (PG13) 12:25, 2:45, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) 12:15, 12:45, 2:30, 3:00, 4:45, 5:30, 7:15, 7:45, 9:40, 10:00
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:05, 7:35, 9:35, 10:05
WALK THE LINE (PG13) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) Ⓓ CC 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 12:50, 2:50, 4:50

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MUNICH (R) ✓ 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 4:00, 7:20, 10:40
THE RINGER (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 3:10, 5:25, 7:45, 10:00
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) ✓ 12:10, 1:20, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:40, 7:40, 9:10, 10:10
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:10, 1:10, 3:20, 4:30, 6:30, 7:35, 9:45, 10:45
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 10:35

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FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG13) ✓ 12:40, 3:10, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
THE FAMILY STONE (PG13) ✓ 1:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
KING KONG (PG13) ✓ 12:30, 1:30, 4:30, 5:30, 8:30, 9:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20
AEON FLUX (PG13) 1:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
HARRY POTTER 4 (PG13) 1:00, 4:30, 8:10

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Cineplex Odeon TYSONS FAIRFAX SQUARE
8065 Leesburg Pike 703-506-9857

★ **MUNICH (R)** (2:45)6:00 9:20
THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (2:50 3:40 5:10)6:10 7:35 9:10 10:00
SYRIANA (R) (3:50)6:40 7:10 9:25 9:50
YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (3:00 5:00)
RENT (PG–13) (3:10)6:20 9:15
WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (3:30)6:30 9:30
CAPOTE (R) (2:30 4:50)7:20 9:50

Cineplex Odeon DUPONT CIRCLE 5
Dupont Circle M
1350 19th Street 202-972-9956

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) (1:00 2:00 3:00 4:00 5:00) 6:00 7:00 8:00 9:00 10:00
CAPOTE (R) (1:30 4:20)7:10 9:50

MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES
CAPITOL CENTRE
800 Shopper's way, Largo 301-324-4220

★ **THE RINGER (PG–13)** (12:40 3:05 5:20)7:40 10:20
★ **FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG–13)** (12:25 2:50 5:10)7:35 9:55
★ **CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG)** (12:00 2:25 5:00)7:30 10:00
★ **KING KONG (PG–13)** (11:30 1:30 2:00 2:30 3:00 5:30) 6:00 6:30 7:00 9:30 10:00 10:30
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (12:15 1:15 3:15 4:15)6:15 7:15 9:15 10:15
AEON FLUX (PG–13) 7:45 10:45
YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (1:00 3:10 5:35)
IN THE MIX (PG–13) (11:50 2:20 4:50)7:25 9:50

Cineplex Odeon UPTOWN
Cleveland Park M
3426 Connecticut Avenue 202-966-8805

KING KONG (PG–13) (10:30 2:45)7:00 11:00

Cineplex Odeon WISCONSIN AVE. CINEMAS
4000 Wisconsin Avenue N.W. 202-244-0882

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (2:40)6:10 9:20
MUNICH (R) (1:00 4:30)8:10
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) (2:10 4:45)7:10 9:45
SYRIANA (R) (12:50 3:45)6:45 9:40
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (12:20 3:30)6:30 8:20 9:30
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG–13) (1:10 4:40)

Loews WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda 310-423-1014

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (12:00 3:15)6:30 9:35
THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (12:15 2:45 5:10)7:30 10:15
KING KONG (PG–13) (1:30)6:00 9:50
SYRIANA (R) (1:00 4:40)7:30 10:15

Cineplex Odeon SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph 703-671-0978

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (2:00 2:40 5:00)6:10 8:00 9:10
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) (2:20 3:00 5:20)6:20 8:20 9:20
SYRIANA (R) (2:10 4:50)7:30 10:10
BREAKFAST ON PLUTO (R) (1:50 4:30)7:10 9:50
GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK (PG) (2:30)
CAPOTE (R) (5:10)7:40 10:00

Loews GEORGETOWN
3111 K Street, N.W. 202-346-6033

MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (12:30 3:40)6:50 10:00
MUNICH (R) (11:00 12:00 2:30 3:30)6:00 7:00 9:30 10:30
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG–13) (11:10 1:30 4:10)6:30 8:50 11:10
THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (11:20 1:50 4:40)7:10 9:40
KING KONG (PG–13) (12:10 1:10 4:00 5:00)6:00 7:50 8:50 9:50
SYRIANA (R) (1:40 4:50)7:50 10:50
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (1:00 4:20)7:30 10:40
WALK THE LINE (PG–13) (11:40 3:20)6:40 10:10

Loews WHEATON PLAZA 11
Wheaton Plaza Shopping Center,
Viers Mill Rd. Btwn. Georgia & University 301-949-9202

THE RINGER (PG–13) (4:20)7:10 9:20
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG–13) (3:20)6:30 9:30
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG–13) (2:50 5:30)7:40 9:50
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) (3:30 5:40)8:00 10:10
THE FAMILY STONE (PG–13) (5:00)7:40 10:20
KING KONG (PG–13) (3:00)6:00 7:00 10:00 11:00
SYRIANA (R) (4:00)6:50 9:45
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) (3:15)6:10 9:10
AEON FLUX (PG–13) (4:30)7:20 9:40
YOURS, MINE AND OURS (PG) (3:10 5:20)7:30 9:35

Tickets times and more at Fandango.com Times Good for 12/23/05 **www.enjoytheshow.com**

REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14
701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale ARISTOCRATS SPECIAL EVENT (NR) ★
MUNICH (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1150 325) 705 1030
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1215 250 520) 745 1015 1230
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1140 210 440) 710 935
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1225 245 515) 740 1000 1215
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1205 230 455) 725 955 1220
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1005 1130 1230 205 330 430) 605 730 830 1005 1130
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1235 400) 635 720 950 1035
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 345) 650 735 945 1025
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1010 1210 120 320 350 425) 700 1010
OC & DA: CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1240)
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1225 335) 640 940
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG 1200

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
Glebe Rd, Arlington 800-FANDANGO 377#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale ARISTOCRATS SPECIAL EVENT (NR) ★
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1100 1145 120 210 340 435) 610 710 830 945
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1115 1210 135 230 355 455) 625 730 840 1000
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1105 115 205 420 505) 715 810 1010
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1130 1200 1230 110 330 400 430 515) 735 805 835 930
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1125 225 525) 820
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1220 335) 705 1005

BOWIE STADIUM 14
15200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1000 135 455) 820 1140
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1030 115 405) 725 955 1225
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1105 110 155 415 500) 715 805 950 1040 1225
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1015 1100 130 215 425 510) 705 750 945 1025 1220
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1025 105 405) 710 1000 1235
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1005 1130 1230 205 330 430) 605 730 830 1005 1130
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 735 1035
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (950 1010 1240 100 120 350 410 430) 700 720 740 1010 1030 1125
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1020)
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1215 400)

BETHESDA 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1220 320) 740 1000
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1250 410) 735 955
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1235 405) 720 1010
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1130 1200 330 400) 730 800
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1210 1230 315 345) 645 710 945 1005
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1135 1205 310 340) 630 700 1015
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1205 320) 650 1010

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale ARISTOCRATS SPECIAL EVENT (NR) ★
MUNICH (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1215 345) 715 1045
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1155 1235 220 300 445 525) 710 750 935 1015 1155
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1140 210 440) 705 930 1155
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1115 1145 145 215 420 450) 655 725 925 955 1150
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1150 225 500) 735 1020
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1005 1130 1200 1230 205 330 400 430) 605 730 800 830 1005 1130 1200
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (950 1010 1240 100 120 350 410 430) 700 720 740 1010 1030 1050
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1225 335) 645 950
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1045 235) 610 945

COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20
45980 Regal Plaza 800-FANDANGO 394#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
MUNICH (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1220 420) 830
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1030 1140 140 240 430 530) 710 810 930
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1050 210 510) 750 1020
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1015 1115 1250 150 340 440) 630 730 1000
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1150 250 540) 740 840 1030
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1100 1200 100 200 310 400 500) 610 700 800 900 1010
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1010 1210 120 350 450) 720 820 1040
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1240 330) 650 945
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1020 1040 1130 1230 130 215 315 415 515 545) 645 745 845 920 950
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1120 230 520)
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG 910
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1110 300) 620 940

ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center 800-FANDANGO 248#
Free Theatre Parking- Monroe Street Garage
Weeknights after 6 PM- all day Saturday/Sunday

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1040 145 420) 715 950 1220
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1035 140 450) 725 955 1225
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1025 125 430) 735 1030
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1135 215 500) 740 1010 1235
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1030 1130 1200 230 330 400) 630 730 800 1025 1130
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1230 345) 710 1020
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1045 135 440) 745 1040
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) (950 100 410) 720 1045
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1010 1240 120 350 435) 700 750 1005 1150
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1155 325) 705 1035

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1210 1250 310 420) 650 745 940 1015
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1130 1200 1230 330 400 440) 730 800 830
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1150 1220 100 320 350 430) 640 710 740 950 1020
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1140 340) 700 1010
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1240 410) 720 1000

GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14
20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1015 1100 100 140 345 420) 705 740 945 1015 1205
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1000 1145 1230 215 300 450 525) 730 800 1000 1035 1215
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1130 1200 1230 330 400 430) 730 800 830 1130 1200
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1000 110 415) 720 1025
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1200 215 445) 745 1000 1215
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1020 120 420) 710 945
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 1020
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1000 1010 1240 100 120 350 410 430) 700 720 740 1010 1030
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1150 325) 700

UA SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14
9161 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale ARISTOCRATS SPECIAL EVENT (NR) ★
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1115 200 500) 800 1015
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1030 130 430) 715 950
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1145 215 445) 745 1020
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1015 100 415) 730 1015
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1130 1200 1230 330 400 430) 730 800 830
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1200 330) 715 1020
OC & DA: CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1000)
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG 645 950
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (1045 1130 100 145 230 400 445 530) 700 745 830 1000
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1030 130 415) 700 940
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) DIG (1215 345) 645 1000
HARRY POTTER & THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) DIG (1145 315)

MANASSAS STADIUM 14
11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#

Adv. Tix on Sale RUMOR HAS IT (PG-13) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale WEDDING CRASHERS SPECIAL
EVENT (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale ARISTOCRATS SPECIAL EVENT (NR) ★
THE RINGER (PG-13) DIG (1110 150 410) 740 1020
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) DIG (1050 1120 130 200 405 445) 710 805 940 1030
FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1030 1150 110 220 340 450) 650 745 920 1015
FAMILY STONE (PG-13) DIG (1100 140 425) 725 1005
KING KONG (PG-13) DIG ★ (1130 1200 1225 330 400 430) 730 800 830
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) DIG (1210 320) 640 1000
SYRIANA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 345) 645 950
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) DIG (950 1010 1240 100 120 350 415 435) 700 720 750 1010 1025
YOURS MINE & OURS (PG) DIG (1020)

Times For 12/23/05 — Daily Bargain Matinees In ( ) — OC= Open Captioned DA= Descriptive Audio Available — * Pass / Discount Ticket Restrictions Apply — ©2005

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MARYLAND

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Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-FILM #805
Bargain Mats. all shows before 6 pm
CAPOTE (R) 1:55, 7:15
GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 4:45, 9:55
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) 1:00, 2:05, 4:15, 6:45, 7:50, 9:40
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 1:15, 2:10, 4:05, 5:05 5:40, 7:00, 8:05, 9:50
BREAKFAST ON PLUTO (R) 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55
MUNICH (R) 1:00, 4:15, 7:30
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 1:25, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45

LAUREL CINEMA 6
LAUREL SHOPPING CENTER RT. 1
301-604-2885
SHOWS BEFORE 6PM $5.00
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) 5:15, 7:15, 9:25
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG-13) 5:25, 7:25, 9:30
KING KONG (PG-13) 4:25, 8:00
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) 4:15, 7:00, 9:40

MARLOW 6 THEATRES
3899 Branch Avenue
Temple Hills, Md. 301-316-1031
GET RICH OR DIE TRYIN' (R) 4:15, 6:40, 9:10
FUN WITH DICK & JANE (PG-13) 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20
KING KONG (PG-13) 2:45, 4:45, 6:30, 8:30
AEON FLUX (PG-13) 3:45, 7:45
IN THE MIX (PG-13) 5:40, 9:40
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) 3:10, 6:10, 9:10

P&G OLD GREENBELT
301-474-9744
40 ft. Screen
At intersection of Crescent & Southway
www.pgtheatres.com
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13)
NO FREQUENT MOVIE GOERS COUPONS OR PASSES
(4:30 @ $5.00) 7:30, 10:15

P&G WESTFIELD MONTGOMERY
7101 Democracy Blvd. Beth. 301-767-9555
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM!
CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG) No Passes 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:30
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) No Passes 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) No Passes 12:45, 3:45, 7:20
HELP WANTED—ALL POSITIONS

VIRGINIA

CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KINGSTOWNE 16
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center
Alexandria, Va. 703-822-4956
*SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT/NO PASSES
***MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13)** 12:20, 3:40, 7:00, 10:10
***MUNICH (R)** 11:15, 2:40, 6:15, 9:40
***RINGER (PG-13)** 12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:05
***FUN WITH DICK AND JANE (PG-13)** 11:30, 12:30, 2:15, 3:10, 4:35, 5:30, 7:10, 7:50, 9:35, 10:20
***CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2 (PG)** 11:40, 2:00, 3:00, 4:20, 5:10, 6:40, 7:30, 9:15
***THE FAMILY STONE (PG-13)** 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:15
***KING KONG (PG-13)** 11:00, 12:05, 1:30, 2:45 4:00, 5:40, 6:50, 8:15, 9:55
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) 11:50, 12:40, 1:45, 3:20, 4:00 5:15, 6:25, 7:20, 8:30, 9:50, 10:25
SYRIANA (R) 1:05, 3:50, 6:40, 9:30
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) 12:00, 9:45
HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE (PG-13) 11:00, 2:20, 6:10, 9:25
CHICKEN LITTLE (G) 11:10 a.m.

Reviews of new kid- and family-oriented films
Family Filmgoer, Fridays in Weekend

DISTRICT

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THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) 1:30, 4:30, 7:15
A CHRISTMAS STORY (PG) FREE 10 pm

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FAIR CITY MALL 703-978-6991
RT. 236 & PICKETT RD. FAIRFAX
Matinees Daily Before 6 pm
Internet Tickets @:
www.cinemaartstheatre.com
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 11:35, 2:15, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15
SYRIANA (R) 11:45, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:10
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
WALK THE LINE (PG-13) 12:50, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00

LANDMARK'S E street CINEMA
E St. at 11th St. NW • (202) 452-7672
Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-3456 #781
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM
BREAKFAST ON PLUTO (R) 11:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK (PG) 12:05, 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:25
THE SQUID AND THE WHALE (R) 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
TRANSAMERICA (R) 11:40, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:40
SARAH SILVERMAN: JESUS IS MAGIC (NR) 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
THE KEEPER: THE LEGEND OF OMAR KHAYYAM (PG) 12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:35
DARWIN'S NIGHTMARE (NR) 11:35, 4:35, 9:20
WINTER SOLDIER (NR) 2:10, 7:10
GO FOR ZUCKER (NR) 4:50, 9:50
PRIDE & PREJUDICE (PG) 11:05, 1:50, 7:05

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– DESSON THOMSON, THE WASHINGTON POST

"A GOOD, OLD-FASHIONED LOVE STORY!

Both Jake Gyllenhaal and Heath Ledger deliver fine performances. Ledger is especially impressive."

– ANN HORNADAY, THE WASHINGTON POST

"★★★★! UNMISSABLE AND UNFORGETTABLE!

Hits you like a shot in the heart. This classic in the making ranks high on the list of the year's best movies. It's a landmark film and a triumph for Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal. Heath Ledger's performance is an acting miracle. Anne Hathaway excels. Michelle Williams is a revelation."

– PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

HEATH LEDGER JAKE GYLLENHAAL ANNE HATHAWAY MICHELLE WILLIAMS

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN

THE NEW FILM DIRECTED BY ACADEMY AWARD-WINNING FILMMAKER ANG LEE. SCREENPLAY BY LARRY McMURTRY & DIANA OSSANA. BASED ON THE SHORT STORY BY ANNIE PROULX.

FOCUS FEATURES AND RIVER ROAD ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT AN ANG LEE FILM HEATH LEDGER JAKE GYLLENHAAL "BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN" LINDA CARDELLINI ANNA FARIS ANNE HATHAWAY MICHELLE WILLIAMS AND RANDY QUAID CASTING BY AVY KAUFMAN, CSA COSTUME DESIGNER MARIT ALLEN MUSIC SUPERVISER KATHY NELSON MUSIC BY GUSTAVO SANTAOLALLA EDITED BY GERALDINE PERONI DYLAN TICHENOR, ACE PRODUCTION DESIGNER JUDY BECKER DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RODRIGO PRIETO, ASC, AMC CO-PRODUCER SCOTT FERGUSON EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS WILLIAM POHLAD LARRY McMURTRY MICHAEL COSTIGAN MICHAEL HAUSMAN PRODUCERS DIANA OSSANA JAMES SCHAMUS

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TOUCHY PARENTS' COUNCIL: A blindsided UPN received "a handful" of complaints after last week's "Everybody Hates Chris" in which the character of Rock's brother told his younger sister that Santa doesn't exist. Have these people never watched a sitcom before?

Television

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

ALSO, 'MOVIES THAT SHOOK STONED PEOPLE'S WORLDS'

MOVIES THAT SHOOK THE WORLD (Fri., 10 p.m., AMC) glances back at the impact of director Stanley Kubrick's 1968 sci-fi drama "2001: A Space Odyssey."

LET IT GLOW

To the cynical, **THE YULE LOG** (Sun., 2:30 a.m., Superstation WGN) is merely a televised fireplace with accompanying Christmas carols. But for millions, it's a heartwarming holiday staple.

WBDC

FEEL THE HEAT: Stare into the fiery depths of the yule log and think no more.

BAD, SCROOGE! BAD!

A Victorian miser (Reginald Owen) receives a lesson he'll not soon forget in the 1938 adaptation of Charles Dickens' **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** (Fri., 10 p.m., TCM).

SITCOM MEMORIES

A 12-hour **MERRYTHON** (Sun., 6 a.m., TV Land) offers Christmas stories from classic shows, including an episode from **THE ADDAMS FAMILY** (10:30 a.m.) when Uncle Fester gets stuck in the chimney and a memorable moment from **THE ANDY GRIFFITH SHOW** (2:30 p.m.) when Barney and Andy throw a Christmas party at the jail.

CULT CHOICE

Two disaffected teens (Thora Birch and Scarlett Johansson) fall into the orbit of an oddball record collector (Steve Buscemi) in the 2001 adaptation of the graphic novel **GHOST WORLD** (Fri., 8 p.m., Independent Film Channel).

TRACY BENNETT

GHOSTS & THE MACHINE: Thora Birch with Steve Buscemi in "Ghost World."

HOPE FOR THE TROOPS

Christmas has always been a season of Hope. Bob Hope. For more than five decades the late funnyman spent holidays entertaining American troops stationed in far-flung outposts from Germany to Vietnam. The Military Channel invites viewers to spend Christmas afternoon with a six-hour **MARATHON OF BOB HOPE SPECIALS**, beginning at noon.

AN ANTIDOTE TO RELENTLESS EFFORTS TO WARM YOUR HEART

An abandoned wife (Divine) meets a mysterious stranger (Tab Hunter) in the 1981 comedy **POLYESTER** (Mon., 1 a.m., IFC). Directed by John Waters, this film was originally released in "Odorama."

A BRIGHT SPOT

The British film **MR. HARVEY LIGHTS A CANDLE** (Sat., 8 p.m., BBC America) stars Timothy Spall as a curmudgeonly high school teacher taking a busload of unruly students on a class trip to England's Salisbury Cathedral. The trip is also a personal pilgrimage, a chance for him to return to the place where he proposed to his now-deceased wife and where he will light a candle in her memory.

Hardly your typical feel-good movie, "Harvey" thoughtfully tackles such subjects as life, death, despair, hope and transcendence. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

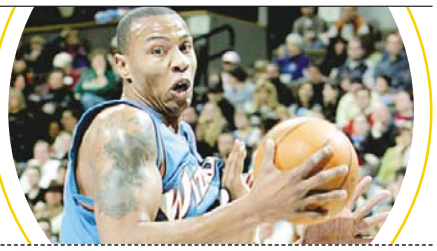
BBC AMERICA

LIGHT IT UP: Timothy Spall as the widower and teacher in "Mr. Harvey."

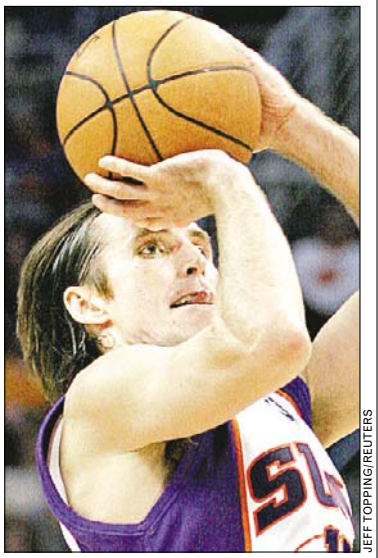
12.23.05		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4	News CC		NBC Nightly News	Redskins Report	Deal or No Deal (N) CC		Dateline NBC (N) CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC		News CC	Tonight Show
	WTTG 5	Seinfeld CC	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Seinfeld CC	★★★ "Ice Age" (2002) Voices of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo. CC				News		Geraldo at Large	Friends CC
	WJLA 7	News CC	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Supernanny "Webb Family" CC		Hope & Faith	Hot Properties (N)	20/20 CC		News CC	(:35) Nightline
	WUSA 9	News CC	CBS News	9News Tonight	Ent. Tonight	Ghost Whisperer "Ghost, Interrupted"		Close to Home "Miranda" CC		NUMB3RS "Judgment Call" (iTV)		News CC	Late Show
	WDCA 20	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Friends CC	Every-Raymond	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! (N) CC				The Tyra Banks Show CC		Girlfriends CC	Girlfriends CC
	WMPT 22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	State Circle	Masterpiece Theatre "Doctor Zhivago" The tragic Russian love story.				NOW CC	Washington Week	Christmas at the Hollywood Palace	
	WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Washington Week	Inside Wash.	NOW CC	Jrnl Edit. Rpt	Great Performances: Andrea Bocelli		Charlie Rose (N) CC	
	WHUT 32	White House	Tavis Smiley	BBC World News	Moneywise	Evening Exch	To the Contrary	History Detectives CC		BBC World News	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) CC	
	WBDC 50	Steve Harvey	The Parkers	My Wife and Kids	Bernie Mac	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Phoenix Suns. From America West Arena in Phoenix.					Bernie Mac
BASIC CABLE	A&E	City Confidential CC		American Justice		★★ "Batman Returns" (1992, Adventure) Michael Keaton, Michelle Pfeiffer, Danny DeVito. CC					The First 48 "A Serial Killer Calls" A serial killer calls 911.		
	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter Diaries CC		The Most Extreme "Monster Myths"		The Planet's Funniest Animals CC		Animal Report	Animal Rescue	Animal Cops San Francisco CC		The Planet's Funniest Animals CC	
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Christmas hits. (N)			★ "Hair Show" (2004, Comedy) Mo'Nique. A hairstylist needs her sister's help to win a contest.					Comicview		In Living Color	In Living Color
	Bravo	The West Wing "Abu El Banat" CC		★★★ "Casino" (1995, Drama) Robert De Niro, Sharon Stone, Joe Pesci. A mob employee makes a play for power in 1970s Las Vegas. CC								Bobby Brown	★★★ Casino
	Comedy	Mad TV Bon Jovi. CC		Com.-Presents	Reno 911! CC	Daily Show	Comedy Central Presents CC		Com.-Presents	Brett Butler-Child	Com.-Presents	Comedians	Premium Blend
	Court	Masterminds	Masterminds	Cops CC	Cops CC	The Investigators "Naked Ambition"		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	
	Discovery	Cash Cab (N)	Cash Cab CC	Killer Squid CC		Killer Jellyfish CC		I Shouldn't Be Alive CC		A Haunting A house in Tucson, Ariz.		John of God: Miracle Man (N)	
	DISCH	Paramedics "On the Edge" CC		Trauma: Life in the ER CC		Trauma: Life in the ER CC		Dr. G: Medical Examiner CC		Skeleton Stories (N)		Trauma: Life in the ER CC	
	Disney	Sister, Sister	Phil of the Future	Zack & Cody	That's So Raven	★★ "Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas" (2004) CC			Phil of the Future	Zack & Cody	Sister, Sister	That's So Raven	That's So Raven
	E!	Gastineau Girls	Gastineau Girls	E! News (N)	E! News	Girl Next Door	Girl Next Door	Girl Next Door	Girl Next Door	The Soup "Best of..." Best moments.		Howard Stern	Howard Stern
	FX	King of the Hill	King of the Hill	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Nip/Tuck "Cherry Peck; Quentin Costa" Christian learns the truth.			
	HGTV	Wknd Warriors	Landscapers	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	All Out Christmas		Double Take (N)	FreeStyle (N)	Designer Finals	House Hunters	Debbie Travis' Facelift	
	Family	7th Heaven CC		Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer-Island of Misfit To			★★★ "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" (1971) Gene Wilder.				★★★ "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" (1971)		
	History	The Real King Herod CC		Chesapeake and the Shannon		Pacific: The Lost Evidence "Guam"		Pacific: The Lost Evidence (N) CC		Heroes Under Fire (N) CC		A Very Ermey Christmas CC	
	Lifetime	The Golden Girls	Will & Grace	★★ "Anastasia" (1997, Musical) Voices of Meg Ryan, John Cusack. CC				★★ "If You Believe" (1999, Drama) Ally Walker, Tom Amandes. CC				Will & Grace	How Clean
	MTV	Laguna Beach	Laguna Beach	Laguna Beach	Laguna Beach	ET on MTV (N)	Rumor Has It	Gauntlet Prev.	R. Wrld Chal.	R. Wrld Chal.	R. Wrld Chal.	Made	
	NICK	All Grown Up	Danny Phantom	SpongeBob	Catscratch	Avatar-Last Air	The X's CC	Danny Phantom	The X's CC	Roseanne CC	Roseanne CC	Roseanne CC	Roseanne CC
	SCIFI	(5:00) ★★★ "Fright Night" (1985)		★★ "Lost Voyage" (2001, Horror) Judd Nelson, Janet Gunn. CC				★★ "The Frighteners" (1996, Suspense) Michael J. Fox, Trini Alvarado. CC				★ "Jason X" (2002) Lexa Doig. CC	
	SPIKE	★★★ "The Spy Who Loved Me" (1977, Adventure) Roger Moore, Barbara Bach, Curt Jurgens.						★★★ "You Only Live Twice" (1967, Adventure) Sean Connery, Akiko Wakabayashi.					From Russia
	TBS	Seinfeld CC	Seinfeld CC	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Friends CC	Friends CC	★★★ "Forrest Gump" (1994) (PA) Tom Hanks. A slow-witted Southerner experiences 30 years of history. CC					
	TLC	Martha Christmas. (N) CC		What Not to Wear CC		One Day of Proposals (N)		What Not to Wear Best of 2005		Ballroom Bootcamp CC		One Day of Proposals	
	TNT	Law & Order "Venom" CC (DVS)		Law & Order "Expert" CC (DVS)		Law & Order "Trade This"		★★ "Legally Blonde" (2001, Comedy) Reese Witherspoon, Luke Wilson.				★★ "Call Me Claus" (2001)	
	USA	(5:00) "Three Wise Guys" (2005) CC		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Monk CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC	
	VHI	VH1 Goes Inside		VH1 Goes Inside "Cops"		When Cameras Cross the Line CC		40 Greatest Pranks				Reality TV Secrets Revealed	
SPAN.	TELEM	Sala de Parejas	Noti-Telemndo	★★ "The Jungle Book 2" (2003, Aventura) Voices of John Goodman.				★ "Baby Geniuses" (1999, Comedia) Kathleen Turner, Christopher Lloyd.				Noti-Telemndo	Titulares y Mas
	UNIV	¡Que Locura!	Noticiero Univ	"Jesús, el Niño Dios" (1970) Guillermo Murray, Jorge Rivero. La historia de la vida infantil del Señor Jesucristo.						Asi Es... Gilberto Gless en Navidad		Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.
SPORTS	ESPN	SportsCenter (Live) CC			College Gameday	College Football Fort Worth Bowl -- Houston vs. Kansas. From Fort Worth, Texas. (Live) CC							SportsCenter
	ESPN2	ESPN Hollywood	Quite Frankly With Stephen A. Smith		NBA Shootaround	NBA Basketball Indiana Pacers at Cleveland Cavaliers. From Quicken Loans Arena in Cleveland.					NBA Basketball Dallas Mavericks at Seattle Sonics. CC		
	CSN	Totally Football	SportsNite CC	Pro View	On Campus	College Basketball American at Maryland. (Live)				SportsNite (Live) CC		ACC All-Access	Best-Sports
NEWS	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight CC		The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now CC		Larry King Live CC		Anderson Cooper 360 CC			
	FNC	Special Report (Live) CC		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live) CC		Hannity & Colmes (Live) CC		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	The Abrams Report		Best of Hardball With Chris Matthews		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		Rita Cosby Live & Direct		Scarborough Country		The Situation With Tucker Carlson	
MOVIES	AMC	(5:15) ★★★ "Two Mules for Sister Sara" (1970) 'PG'			★★ "Firefox" (1982) Clint Eastwood. A Vietnam-era pilot tries to steal a Russian high-tech jet.					Movies Shook	Movies 101 (N)	★ "Village of the Damned" (1995)	
	TCM	While Ptnt Slpt	(:45) ★★ "Man Alive" (1945, Comedy) Pat O'Brien. 'NR'			★★★ "In the Good Old Summertime" (1949) Judy Garland. 'NR' CC (DVS)				★★★ "A Christmas Carol" (1938)		(:15) ★★ "Little Women" (1949) 'NR'	
	HBO	(5:00) ★★ "Leap of Faith" (1992)		Inside the NFL CC		★ "Catwoman" (2004) Halle Berry. 'PG-13' CC			(:45) ★★ "Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid" (2004) 'PG-13' CC				Exorcist: Begin
	MAX	Point of Origin	★ "White Noise" (2005) Michael Keaton. 'PG-13' CC			(:15) ★ "I Know What You Did Last Summer" (1997) Jennifer Love Hewitt.				★★★ "Ray" (2004, Biography) Jamie Foxx, Regina King. 'PG-13' CC			
	SHOW	(:15) ★★ "Coffee and Cigarettes" (2003) Roberto Benigni. iTV. 'R' CC				★★★ "The Manchurian Candidate" (2004) Denzel Washington. 'R' CC				(:15) ★★★ "Crimson Tide" (1995) Denzel Washington. iTV. 'R' CC			
	TMC	(:05) ★★★ "Hope and Glory" (1987) Sebastian Rice-Edwards. 'PG-13' CC				★★★ "Camp" (2003, Musical Comedy) Daniel Letterle. 'PG-13'				★★ "I'm Losing You" (1998) Rosanna Arquette. 'R' CC			Hellraiser: Hell
	STARZ!	(4:45) ★★ "National Treasure" 'PG'		★★ "Con Air" (1997, Suspense) Nicolas Cage, John Cusack. 'R' CC				★★★ "The Incredibles" (2004) Voices of Craig T. Nelson. 'PG' CC				★★★ "Hitch" (2005) Will Smith. CC	
	ENCORE	(:15) ★★ "Ella Enchanted" (2004) Anne Hathaway, Cary Elwes. 'PG' CC				★★ "Laws of Attraction" (2004) Pierce Brosnan. 'PG-13'			(:35) ★★★ "Good Will Hunting" (1997, Drama) Matt Damon. 'R' CC				(:45) The Big Easy

Sports Weekend

WIZARDS
Starting Over: Months after he was traded to the Wizards, small forward Caron Butler is finally getting a chance to start | 21



TV Lineup



JEFF TOPPING/REUTERS

Steve Nash and the Phoenix Suns are the last test on the Wizards' road trip.

➜ **HOT SPOT:** The Wizards wrap up their road trip against 2005 NBA MVP Steve Nash and the Phoenix Suns on Friday (9 p.m. on WB50).

➜ **GIANT GAME:** Games don't get much bigger than this for the Redskins, who host the New York Giants on Saturday (1 p.m. on Fox).

➜ **HOLIDAY SPIRIT:** Maybe the Capitals can give their fans an early Christmas present with a home victory over the Montreal Canadiens on Friday (7 p.m. on NewsChannel 8).

➜ **OLD SCHOOL, AGAIN:** Two weeks after Gary Williams led Maryland to a win over Boston College — where he once coached — he faces another team he helmed in American University on Friday night (8 p.m. on CSN).

➜ **HO HO HOOPS:** Before sitting down to Christmas dinner, the NBA offers up a doubleheader starting with the San Antonio Spurs vs. the Detroit Pistons in a rematch of last year's finals followed by Shaq vs. Kobe, or the L.A. Lakers vs. the Miami Heat.

➜ **SNOW BOWLS?** Chicago vs. Green Bay (5 p.m. on Fox) and Minnesota at Baltimore (8:30 p.m. on Christmas) probably seemed like good Christmas day games when the schedules were made last spring.

What a Rush

Riding high off Dallas rout, Redskins take aim at Tiki

REDSKINS | Riding a wave of self-esteem bigger than Linda Cropp's hair, the Redskins have wiggled themselves into what seemed like an impossible scenario at the beginning of the month: Making the playoffs.

Washington (8-6) did everything except make Bill Parcells cry in last weekend's 35-7 shellacking of Dallas. Losses by Minnesota and Atlanta boosted the 'Skins into the last NFC wild card spot with two games to play. Win both, and they're in the playoffs for the first time since 1999.

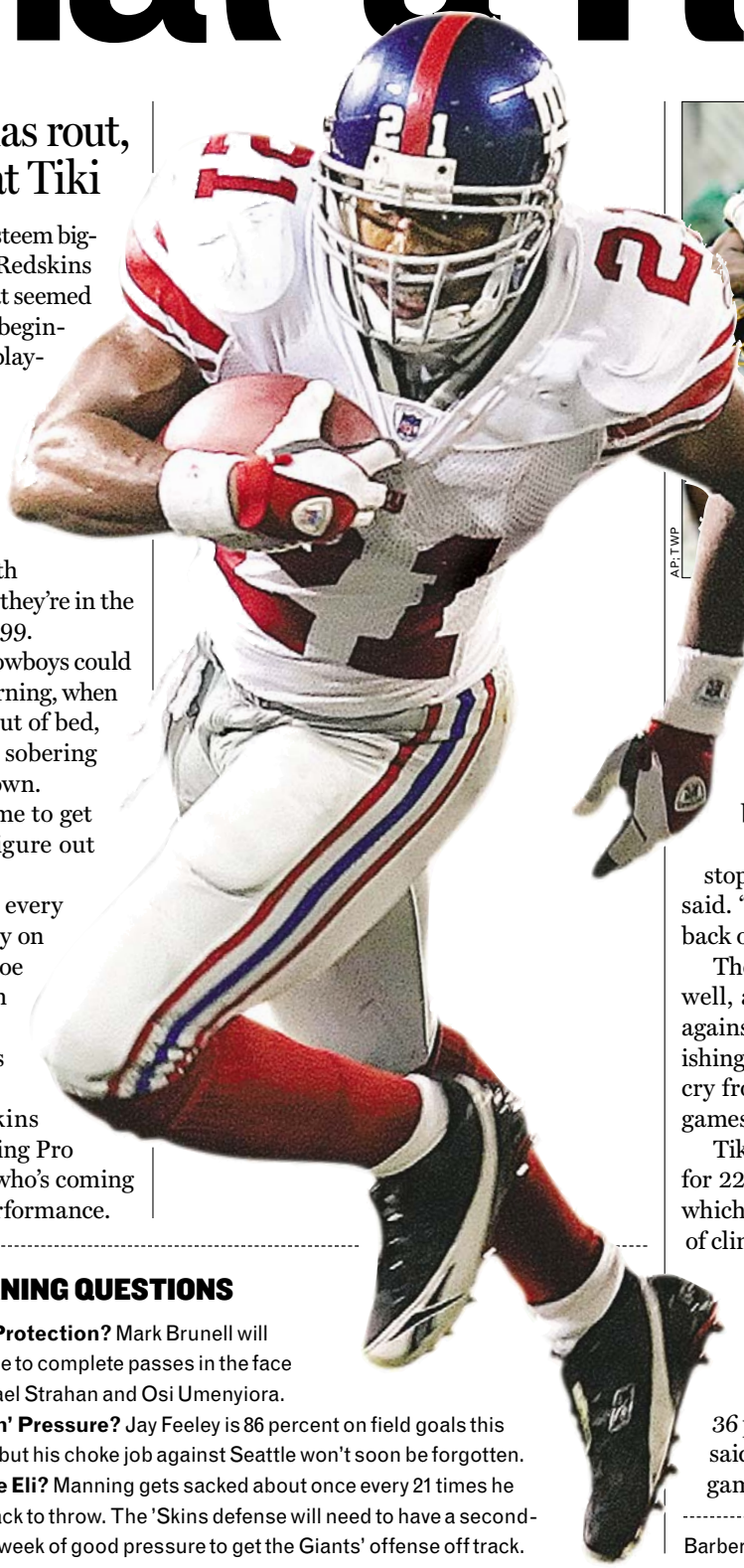
But the rush of crushing the Cowboys could only have lasted until Monday morning, when the Redskins collectively rolled out of bed, looked at the calendar and got a sobering sight: the Giants are coming to town.

There's never been a better time to get revenge. Now if only they can figure out how.

"They completely dominated every phase [in New York's 36-0 victory on Oct. 30]," Redskins head coach Joe Gibbs said. "What concerned me then was it was a big game for us then.

"It's another big game for us now."

This time around, the Redskins will have to do a better job stopping Pro Bowl running back Tiki Barber, who's coming off another 200-yard rushing performance.



AP; TWP

The 'Skins has been dominant of late.

Barber has gone from chronic fumbler — 40 drops over the previous six seasons — to chronic headache for the opposition, racking up 1,998 total yards and 10 touchdowns this season while fumbling just once in 355 touches.

"It's definitely going to take 11 guys [to stop him]," linebacker Marcus Washington said. "You can't overpursue because he'll cut back on you, and you have to tackle well."

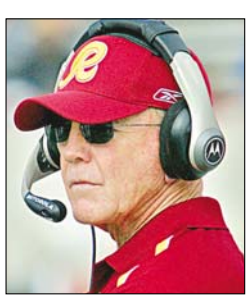
The 'Skins know what that looks like all too well, as Barber broke 59- and 57-yard runs against Washington in their first meeting, finishing with 206 yards for the game. That's a far cry from his total of 80 rushing yards in two games against the 'Skins in 2004.

Tiki torched a good Kansas City rush defense for 220 yards in last weekend's 27-17 victory, which put the Giants (10-4) a win away from of clinching the NFC East.

Of course, the Redskins' defense looked pretty good last week, too, forcing four turnovers and holding Dallas to 216 total yards.

"I don't think anyone in this league is 36 points better than any other team," Barber said. "That's the mentality we take into this game." ERIC BRANDNER

Barber was named to the Pro Bowl on Wednesday.



3 BURNING QUESTIONS

➜ **Got Protection?** Mark Brunell will need time to complete passes in the face of Michael Strahan and Osi Umenyiora.

➜ **Feelin' Pressure?** Jay Feeley is 86 percent on field goals this season, but his choke job against Seattle won't soon be forgotten.

➜ **Rattle Eli?** Manning gets sacked about once every 21 times he drops back to throw. The 'Skins defense will need to have a second-straight week of good pressure to get the Giants' offense off track.

ARCHIVES | **Rules for Sale** The original rules of basketball are for sale — for about $10 million. The rules drafted by Dr. James Naismith, the man who invented the game in 1891, are being sold by his family. Naismith's grandson, Ian Naismith, who put the item up for sale, hopes a corporation comes forward with a deal, which would include sponsorship of a two-year nationwide tour to display the rules in a 40-foot motor coach. Ultimately, Naismith hopes the rules will be put on permanent display at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. (AP)

Redskins Seek Revenge

Washington is favored despite earlier blowout loss to the N.Y. Giants

PRO PICKS | The Washington Redskins are officially back from the dead.

After four losses in five games and six in eight, they've won three in a row and can make the playoffs simply by winning their last two. Or even just by beating the New York Giants on Saturday if some other things break for them.

This won't be as easy as their 35-7 win over Dallas last Sunday. After all, the Giants won the first meeting 36-0 and have their own ambitions, such as clinching the NFC East with one more win.

Despite the pounding the Redskins took at the Meadowlands, they are 3-point favorites this week.

That blowout in the first game resulted from a combination of circumstances: emotion after the death of Giants owner Wellington Mara, early Redskins turnovers and some curious defensive alignments that helped Tiki Barber rush for 206 yards.

But the Giants have injuries now, the Redskins have momentum and home field. **REDSKINS, 24-20.**

➜ **SAN DIEGO** (plus 1) at **KANSAS CITY.** Two teams in desperation mode. **CHARGERS, 31-21.**

JONATHAN NEWTON/TWP

MARKED UP: Mark Brunell wouldn't mind throwing four more touchdowns Saturday like he did last week vs. the Cowboys.

➜ **ATLANTA** (plus 3) at **TAMPA BAY.** Two teams that froze last week in northern climes battle for survival in the NFC South. **BUCS, 17-16.**

➜ **DALLAS** (plus 5½) at **CAROLINA.** The Cowboys' playoff hopes are almost gone. **PANTHERS, 22-14.**

➜ **OAKLAND** (plus 13) at **DENVER.** The Broncos clinch the AFC West. **BRONCOS, 31-13.**

➜ **INDIANAPOLIS** (plus 8) at **SEATTLE.** The Colts? Underdogs by eight? Think Jim Sorgi. **SEAHAWKS, 24-6.**

➜ **PITTSBURGH** (minus 6½) at **CLEVELAND.** The Steelers, clinging to the sixth AFC playoff spot, have to be careful. **STEELERS, 16-13.**

➜ **JACKSONVILLE** (minus 6) at **HOUSTON.** The way the Jags played against the 49ers last week, anything can happen. **JAGUARS 16-13.**

➜ **BUFFALO** (plus 13½) at **CINCINNATI.** The Bills are 0-6 on the road. **BENGALS, 33-10.**

➜ **CHICAGO** (minus 6) at **GREEN BAY.** Not much left in the poor Pack. **BEARS, 24-2.**

➜ **MINNESOTA** (minus 1½) at **BALTIMORE.** Two long-term Vikings trends: they fade late and they're bad outdoors. **RAVENS, 17-13.**

➜ **NEW ENGLAND** (minus 5) at **NEW YORK JETS** (Monday night). Pats will be careful about injuries. A going-away game for Boston College great Doug Flutie? **PATRIOTS 20-19.**

DAVE GOLDBERG (AP)

VICTOR JUNCO/ST. PETERSBURG TIMES/AP

Dungy, right, leaves the football field with his son James after a 1997 game.

Dungy's Son Found Dead at 18

Police suspect suicide, coach leaves Colts to mourn with his family

LUTZ, FLA. | James Dungy, the 18-year-old son of Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy, was found dead of an apparent suicide in his Tampa-area apartment early Thursday, the sheriff's office said.

James Dungy's girlfriend found him when she returned to the Campus Lodge Apartments at about 1:30 a.m., Hillsborough County Sheriff's spokeswoman Debbie Carter said.

"Based on evidence at the scene, indications are that this death appears to be a suicide," Carter said. However, Carter said, an autopsy will be performed to determine the official cause and manner of death. She released no additional details about what deputies found at the scene.

When Dungy's girlfriend found him, he wasn't breathing, Carter said. A sheriff's deputy performed CPR before an ambulance rushed him to University Community Hospital, she said. He was pronounced dead there.

Tony Dungy has left the Colts and is in Tampa, where he coached the Buccaneers from 1996 to 2001. The Colts (13-1) are at Seattle on Saturday, and team president Bill Polian said that assistant head coach Jim Caldwell has taken over for Dungy. TRAVIS REED (AP)

DreamTeam

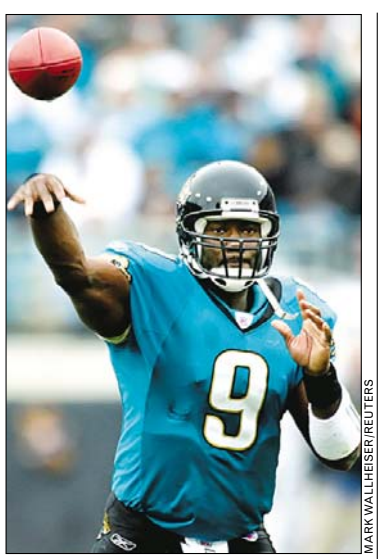
FANTASY FOOTBALL | BY CHRIS MINCHER

Last Chance For Young QBs

I'D WAGER THAT FEW fantasy football managers played Kyle Boller last week, missing out on an impressive 3 TD, 0 INT performance and getting himself back in the spotlight (temporarily, at least) as the season winds down.

Boller is one of a handful of young quarterbacks that need to prove they deserve a chance to have a big role next year. That motivation will lead them to go for the bigger plays — especially in games where there's no playoff implications.

Sometimes, that leads to big days. Sometimes, it leads to embarrassing collapses. But keep an eye on the guys trying to establish themselves, such as Rex Grossman, Charlie Frye, Joey Harrington, and Boller.



MARK WALLHEISER/REUTERS

Garrard should enjoy success vs. the Texans and Titans the next two weeks.

BIG CATS

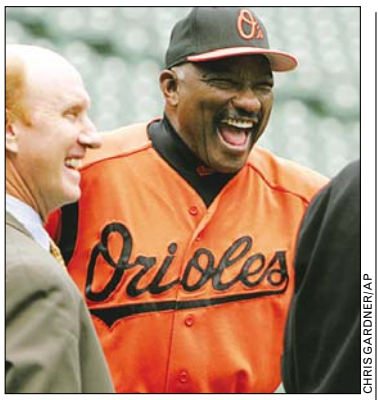
➜ **DESHAUN FOSTER, RB, CAROLINA PANTHERS.** Ignore the lackluster performances of the last two weeks; he had a shoulder injury that he's now mostly recovered from. Bonus: next week the Panthers face the Falcons, whom, three weeks ago, Foster had 131 yards and a TD against.

➜ **DAVID GARRARD, QB, JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS.** Last two games: Houston and Tennessee, so you know he's good for at least two TDs per game.

THE WORST OF THE WORST

➜ **AARON BROOKS, QB, NEW ORLEANS SAINTS.** Brooks is soon to be an ex-Saint after four interceptions and only one TD in his past two games. I can't wait to see him become Miami's biggest off-season mistake.

➜ **COREY BRADFORD, WR, HOUSTON TEXANS.** Bradford is averaging just more than 5 yards a catch in his past two games. At that rate, you might as well just pitch the guy the ball. Hee, hee, the Texans are funny.



CHRIS GARDNER/AP

Hendricks was considered the "most beloved Oriole," Brooks Robinson said.

O's Mourn Passing of Hendricks

APPRECIATION | Elrod Hendricks was the face of the Baltimore Orioles. More often than not, that face wore a broad smile.

"He was a happy person and was loved and welcomed wherever he went," former Orioles manager Earl Weaver said.

Hendricks, who spent 37 years as a player and coach with the Orioles, died of a heart attack Wednesday night. Instead of celebrating his 65th birthday on Thursday, friends and family of the longtime bullpen coach mourned his passing.

He was, in effect, the team's unofficial ambassador. He may not have been the best player to wear an Oriole uniform, but his popularity in Baltimore was unmatched.

"We lost the most beloved Oriole of all time," said Hall of Fame third baseman Brooks Robinson.

DAVID GINSBURG (AP)

Terps' Shooting Star

Ibekwe's hard work pays off as Maryland readies for American

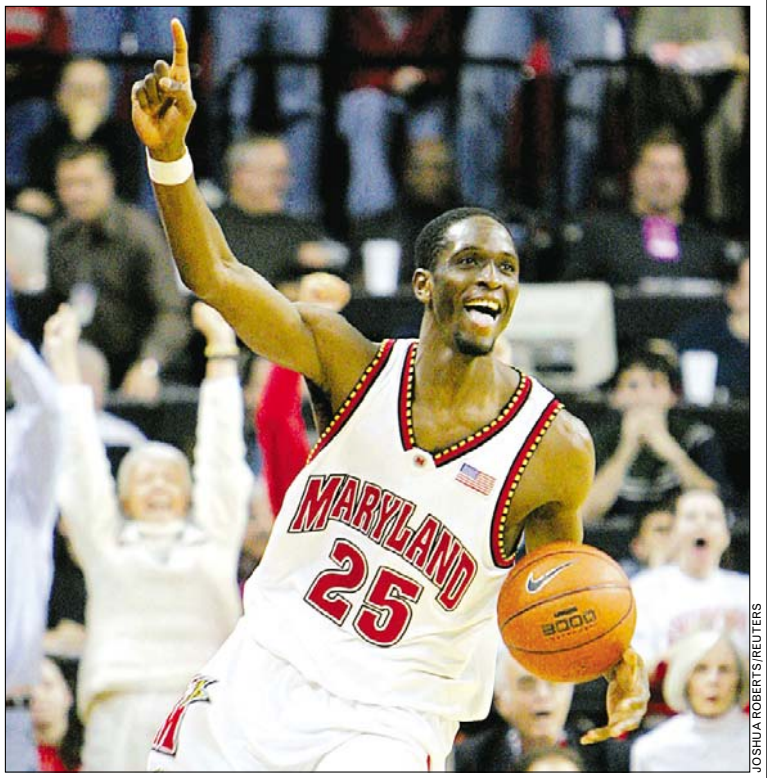
TERPS HOOPS | After two years with the Terrapins, Ekene Ibekwe had flashed plenty of potential.

Speed, athleticism, a nose for the ball. Gary Williams saw that. Everyone saw that.

There was just one problem, the coach said. The boy had an ugly shot. His cockeyed release made it no wonder he shot just 44 percent from the field and 54 percent from the free throw line his first two seasons.

At the end of the season, the coach spoke up. "I just told him, 'If you look around at all the great players, nobody shoots like that. Maybe you can become a good shooter that way, but the odds aren't with you,'" Williams said.

The 6-foot-9 forward spent the offseason refining his stroke, developing a more conventional — and more effective — release.



JOSHUA ROBERTS/REUTERS

Maryland's Ekene Ibekwe celebrates defeating Boston College after the game at College Park on Dec 11. Ibekwe worked all summer to improve his shot this year.

The results have been tangible.

Ibekwe is shooting 58 percent from the field to lead the Terps and 66 percent from the line. He's made his presence felt more than ever in the past two games, averaging 19.5 points in wins over Western Carolina and Boston College. Maryland will look to him to keep his streak going when the Terps tune up for the ACC schedule by taking on a string of lesser opponents, beginning Friday night against American University.

"He's definitely improved," guard D.J. Strawberry said.

Another aspect of his game Ibekwe has gotten better at is staying out of foul trouble. One of the few effective big men on the Terrapins' roster, he can ill-afford to be on the bench in crunch time. He played a career-high 34 minutes against Boston College.

"I just told myself if I stay out of foul trouble, I can play longer on the court," he said. "Obviously my team needs me and I want to be out there for them — to play strong, to play big inside." DEREK TURNER

In Brief

BASEBALL

Bernie Williams Returns to Yanks as Backup to Damon

Bernie Williams is staying with the New York Yankees, agreeing to a $1.5 million, one-year contract that allows him to earn an additional $1.5 million in performance bonuses. Williams, coming off an $87.5 million, seven-year contract, will have a reduced role as a designated hitter and backup outfielder. New York reached a preliminary agreement Tuesday on a contract with Johnny Damon, who will be the starting center fielder. (AP)

GW HOOPS

Transfer From LSU Cleared To Play for No. 13 Colonials

George Washington's 13th-ranked basketball team is about to get another player. The school announced Thursday that former LSU player Regis Koundjia has been declared eligible to play for the Colonials, starting with the Dec. 30 game at N.C. State. Koundjia transferred to GW last year and had to satisfy an academic residency requirement before joining the team. As a junior, he can play for the Colonials the rest of this season and the entire 2006-07 season. George Washington (8-0) is off to its best start since the 1953-54 season. Its No. 13 ranking is its highest since January 1956. (AP)

NFL

Jets' Chrebet Retires

Jets receiver Wayne Chrebet said Thursday his career was over, one month after sustaining a season-ending concussion. Chrebet spent 11 seasons with his hometown team after signing as an undrafted free agent out of Hofstra, but was plagued with head injuries the last few seasons. He ends his career with 580 receptions, second to Don Maynard's 627 on the team list. (AP)

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Butler Gets a Shot to Start

Wizards find winning formula in altered lineup

WIZARDS | For the time being, Wizards coach Eddie Jordan has come around.

Fans have been clamoring all season to see small forward Caron Butler — acquired from the Lakers during the off-season — in the starting lineup, and Jordan, trying to spark a team that had dropped three straight and six of seven, finally obliged Wednesday in Denver.

The result? A win to snap the streak, propelled by the fourth-best offensive output of the year and the most points they scored in more than two weeks.

While Butler (14.9 ppg, 5 rpg) only scored 11 points against the Nuggets, he posed enough of a scoring threat that the pressure was eased off fellow scorers Gilbert Arenas and Antawn Jamison — allowing them both to have big games.

There's no telling how long the experiment by Jordan will last, but the ultimate test of how the strategy works could come tonight in a tough match-up on the road against the Phoenix Suns (15-9).

Players say that they support having Butler alongside them at the tip-off, and believe he can help pick up the game's pace and put opponents immediately on the defensive.

"He's giving us that firepower we need," shooting guard Arenas said.

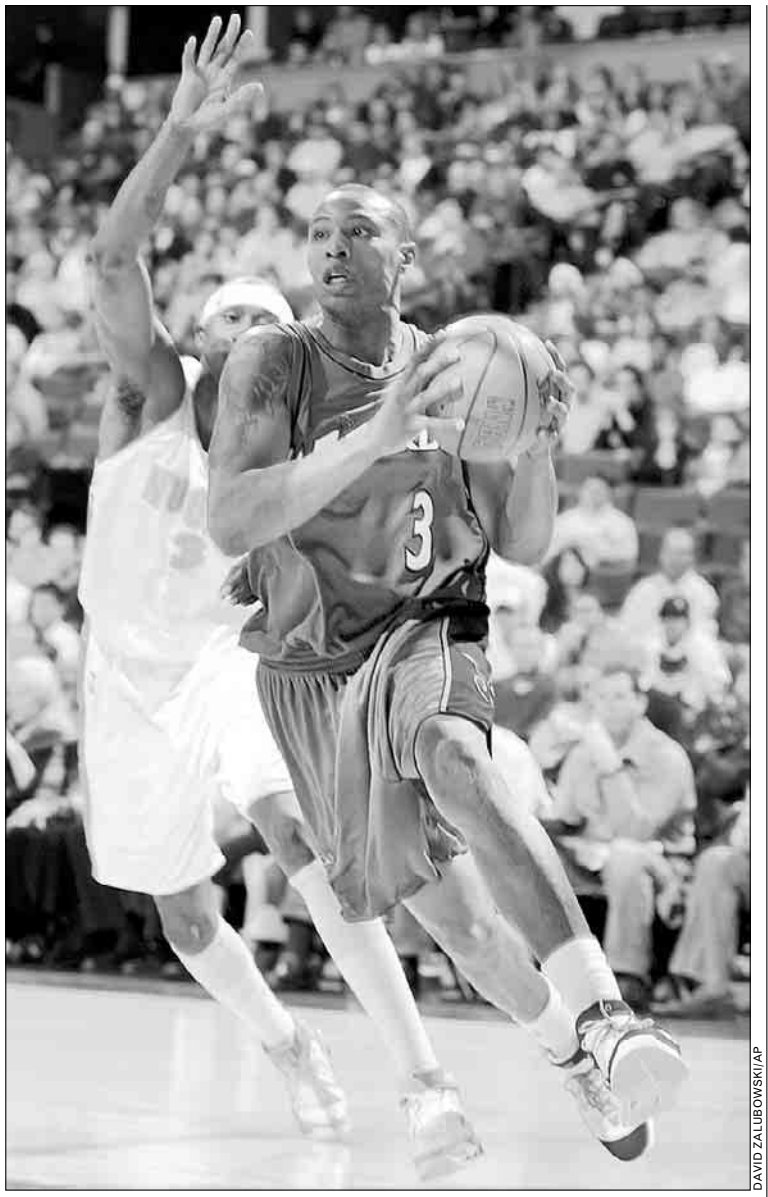
Both Arenas and Jamison said they have been impressed with how easily they can create plays with Butler.

That's promising for fans that recall how dominating the Wizards (10-14) were last year using a 1-2-3 combo of Jamison, Arenas and Larry Hughes.

Butler has been waiting for the opportunity to start since the beginning of the season. While he has not complained about playing the first 23 games off the bench, it wasn't a secret he preferred to be a starter and never felt completely comfortable in a backup role.

"I wasn't used to it. I'm never going to get used to it," Butler said.

CHRIS MINCHER (EXPRESS)



DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/AP

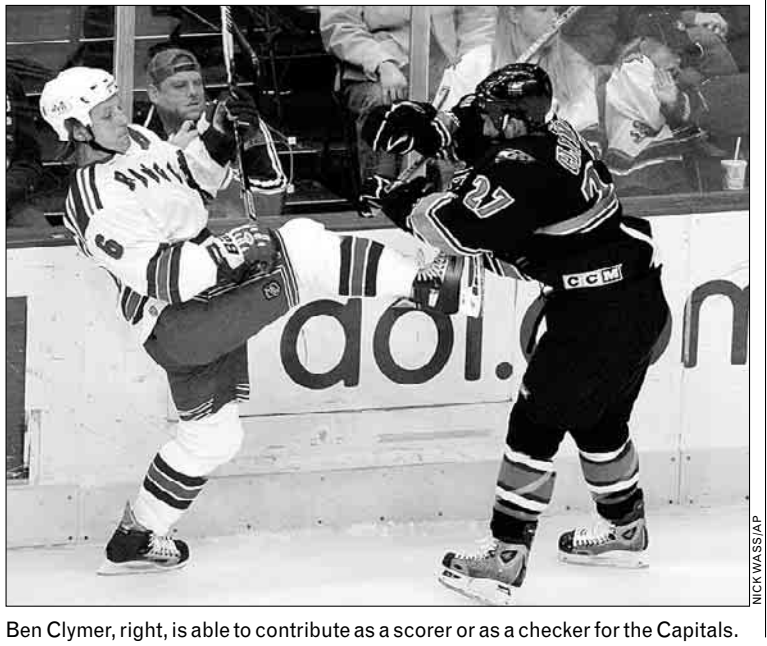
Washington Wizards forward Caron Butler heads to the basket for a shot as he slips by Denver Nuggets guard DerMarr Johnson in his first start of the season.

Clymer Hopes Lightning Strikes Twice

CAPITALS | When Washington Capitals left wing Ben Clymer wears the Stanley Cup ring he earned in 2004, as he did on the team's recent trip to California, he's not trying to distance himself from a last-place team that's lost six of eight.

He's letting them know that he's been through one rebuilding process already, and that his new team is on the right track.

"Compared to my first two years in the league, we're a better team than the one I was a part of in the floundering Lightning that started from scratch and worked its way to a Stanley Cup in his fifth season. "I bring the ring around every once in awhile. The guys see it and realize the prize is attainable, that every bit of sacrifice we're going to go through is worth it."



NICK WASS/AP

Ben Clymer, right, is able to contribute as a scorer or as a checker for the Capitals.

Clymer, 27, has a bigger role on the Caps than he did in Tampa and can contribute as a checker or occasional scorer. He has five goals and two assists, including one of each in the past two games. Washington, (10-19-2) before last night's game in Atlanta, hosts the Montreal Canadiens tonight.

Clymer said he tries to "chip in a little knowledge," as someone who was part of a similar situation. The Minnesota native said his current team compares favorably with the early Lightning.

He likes that large groups of players go to dinner. He likes the fact that no one uses youth as a "crutch." And he likes there are games the team now expects to win. "It's going to get better," he said. "It can suck saying that, but it is. The guys can see the big picture." BRIAN STRAUS

Swengali

REFLECTION | BY MATT SWENSON

The Nats End 2005 on Top

CHOOSING A TOP SPORTS story of the year is an exercise in futility, since a key event here like the Wizards making the playoffs may not even register to Spurs fans enjoying another NBA title.

That said, with one week left in 2005, we'll try to make sense of it all by choosing one local story and one national story that rose to the top.

It needs to be said that this was an incredibly good year for area sports fans. Not only did the Wizards make the playoffs, but the Redskins swept the Cowboys and could still make the playoffs, almost every major golfer except Tiger Woods played in the Booz Allen Classic and the MCI Center hosted the ACC Tournament and what could be Mike Tyson's final fight.

> This was an incredibly good year for area sports fans.

Nothing tops the Nationals, though, who brought baseball back to D.C. and then added a flare of excitement by staying in first place into July. Now let's hope they stick around long enough for Alfonso Soriano to leave as a free agent.

Fans of the Patriots, White Sox, Lance Armstrong and the NHL all can lay claim to being the top national story, but the stain of steroids overshadows everything. Baseball's doping scandal took off from Jose Canseco's book, which led to a Congressional hearing that is now famous for Rafael Palmeiro's "denial." Months later, he was caught as a cheat as the biggest star of 12 players suspended for drugs.

It wasn't pretty, but maybe this year led to baseball cleaning up its act for good.

Matt Swenson is off next week. Swengali will return next year. Happy holidays, everyone.

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Classifieds

JOBS

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Min. 2 years exper. MS Office & strong customer service skills req'd. Quickbooks/Peachtree pref'd. Ashburn, VA loc. Fax resume to 703-858-0917.

PROMOTERS ASSISTANT
Wanted for Gentleman's Club, PG County w/own transport. Bonuses & commiss. 240-286-3660.

RECEPTIONIST— Animal hospital in Silver Spring has immediate positions for PT Receptionist, weekday and some weekend hours. If interested call 301-598-7300 Please no personal references

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, a non-profit medical research organization is searching for a Research Assistant to work with the HIV Research Program. Will assist the clinical/administrative staff at the Vaccine Clinical Research Center (VCRC) with the procurement, processing/handling and delivery of laboratory specimens. **Maintain the Investor Regulatory File.** Create and maintain patient enrollment /termination tracking records. Assist with recruitment of volunteers. Stock and maintain equipment and supply levels. Will work with a diverse group of people and must have excellent communication, organizational skills and knowledge of computers. Must have a bachelor's in related scientific field. Previous experience in clinical trials and at least one year as a phlebotomist preferred. Please apply on-line at: www.hjf.org/careers Job Req. 201512 or FAX your resume to 240-314-7334. Please specify job title and number on fax. We offer a competitive salary and generous benefits package. AA/EEO.

Restaurant

100 King Restaurant
Located in Old Town Alexandria looking for Servers & Line Cooks. FAX your resume to: 703-299-0077

RESTAURANT LINE COOK
RI RA is seeking an AM Line cook for mid-week lunches. Full & PT avail. Please apply in person at 4931 Elm St, Bethesda MD 20814.

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Now hiring **Servers and Hosts**. Apply between 9am-7pm, **Bugaboo Creek Steakhouse,** 15710 Shady Grove Road. **Phone: 301-548-9200.**

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The Washington Post

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Washington, DC 20071
Fax: (202) 912-3677
talentsearch@washpost.com

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Qualified candidates should send a resume with a cover letter describing your superior selling abilities and previous sales successes to:

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Real Estate Information

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JOBS

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The Office of the Public Defender in Montgomery County is seeking qualified applicants for Social Worker II, Criminal Justice. A Social Worker II is the full performance level of professional social work providing clinical and therapeutic social work services in a criminal justice environment. The social worker will be assigned to work with a team of lawyers, law clerks and interns and will be responsible for assessing needs, locating essential services in the community and present treatment plans in the courtroom in the areas of mental health, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, chronic medical problems, head trauma, lead poisoning, domestic violence and sexual offender issues. Applicants must have a MSW and possess either a LCSW or LCSW-C license, as well as have the ability to work effectively with adults and juveniles (charged as adults in the criminal justice system) and have two years of experience providing clinical and therapeutic social work services. A background in mental health, excellent writing skills and courtroom experience are preferred. Applicants must have their own transportation. Salary range: $38,578 - $59,475. Generous State benefits including family medical, pension, 401K and liberal paid leave. To apply please submit a State application (MS-100 form) which can be downloaded from www.dbm.maryland.gov to Dawn Kouneski, Personnel Director, Office of the Public Defender, 6 St. Paul Street, Suite 1400, Baltimore, MD, 21202. Applications must be received in this office by January 9, 2006. EOE.

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VET/RECEPTIONIST

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- 5 minutes to 95/495

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3 Lvl 3 Bed 2F & 2H Bath lrg Ktch deck W&D Hwd floor Recently painted Bus to Hgton & FrcSprg Metro

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NE 1610 K ST—Lrg 2BR, 1BA w/ hrwd flrs, coin op laundry on premise. $795/mo inc heat/hot wtr.Close to Hechinger Mall.
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Spacious 1BRs w/ Eat-in kitchens, pets welcome. Near shopping & metro (5 min drive). Ask about Government, Millitary & Teacher discounts.
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ROCKV/No Beth—Lovely 3BR, 2BA brk det split lvl home, new kit, hdwd flrs, frpl, more. Conven to White Flint, Metro. Avl Jan. $2000. Rob 301-440-9595.**EPSTEIN & ASSOC 301-589-5060**

ROCKV/White Flint—Lge 1BR, sunny, 1½BA, free pkg, utils incl. Wlk Metro. $1195. 301-270-6114

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Pls call Thomas D. Walsh Realtors 202-237-8488

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No Application Fee/Deposit Special
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Near Schools, Shopping, and Metro
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CIH Properties, Inc EHO

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$590 to $725 plus electric
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Section 8 Vouchers Welcome
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Sat. 10-2
305-37th Street SE #B-3

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SIL SPG/Glenmont—3BR, 2BA SFH just remod. Beaut. kit., lg fncd yard; walk to Glenmont Metro. $2050/mo. 301-424-7463; 301-520-5095.

SIL SPG—Lovely 2BR 1½BA condo, 100ft from Glnmnt Metro, red line, $1500, all utils incl. 301-996-3967

SIL SPG—SFH, 6BR, 3 FBA, beaut 1/2 ac yd, new appls, deck ex cond,10 mins Wheaton Plaza & 15 mins to Beltway. $3300. 301-563-3393

SPRINGFIELD—Bsmt in TH, FBA, Table, No Pets. $625/mo all utls incl. Call 703-203-8523.

STAFFORD— Brand New 3 BR, 2½ BA, 3 lvl TH w/fin bsmt, hdwd flrs, cls to good schls & shopping. Section 8 welcome. $1600. Call Debbie 571-277-5335

SUITLAND—3BR 2BA Cape Cod. fin bsmt. $1550/mo. Call Ray Marshall, Re/Max, 301-702-4243

SUITLAND—4BR, 2BA, brick rambler, $1675+utilities Bernard Galloway, Trust Realty LLC, 301-352-3733. EHO.

SW—1 BR, 1 BA, w/ Den & LR. Nr Metro. $800. Call 202-561-6034

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Your home for the holidays...
***** Free Heat & Gas *****
1BR for $675
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Modern Kitchen w/ Breakfast Bar
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Laundry Facility
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SW—Newly renov.1 BR apt-$1100 OR 2 BR, 2 BA -$1400. CAC, new applcs, sec 8 OK 202-445-5954

TAKOMA PARK/806 Islington St. —3+BR, 1FBA SFH, rec. refurbished. Walk to metro. $1600.
Mr. Allen, 301-802-4832.

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TEMPLE HILLS EHO
Spacious 1,2,3BR Apts

- Washer/Dryer & Fireplaces - Optional.
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UPPER MARLBORO— 4BR, 3 FB SFH, Avl now. $2300. 301-343-1054

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Townhouse
3BD 3.5 BA, 202.253.3538

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$200/mo off 2/3BRs. $100/mo off 1BRs
All Utils Included. Brand new kits & baths. Brand new fitness & business ctrs. DC's most desirable location. Conv loc to Van Ness Metro, shpng & entrtnmt. **The Brandywine 877-305-6433**

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Woodbridge—Renovated luxury 2BR/1BA, $900.-/mo + ele. Ron @ 202.338.0840/905.6793

ROOMMATES

ALEX/5 mins to Spgfld Metro —Sh TH rm for Female 202-247-7187 Zia

ALEX/Franconia/Spgfld Metro—2 furn's rms avail in bsmt of SFH. Shr Bath & kitchen. Incl utils & DISH. **Call 703-922-9693!**

ALEX/HUNTINGTON— 2 blocks metro, 6 nonth lease. Prof, N/S F to shr 3 lvl TH, Share bath w/1 F. $450 + 1/3 utils. 703-309-4371

BETH— Rm in prof 4 BR n-smkg 1½ BA shr'd hse. Scrn prch, frpl, hdwd flrs, cat. Nr NIH Metro. $475+ ¼ utils. Call 301-214-7873.

BLADENSBURG —Shr 6br, 4rms Upstairs + bsmt w/2br. Nr BW Pkwy. **202-369-7946 or 202-210-2914**

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Centreville—$700
F share TH; master bdrm avail.
F to share TH, master bdrm w/ own full bath, near 28/29/66, $700 + 1/3 util., 703-405-5225

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Falls Church Lake Barcroft—Shr hse. Bedrooms for rent all util incl.cable, W/D. Great loc. (703)499-6737

GAITHERBURG—Hse to share 1rm, Spur Hill Dr, Wkdys after 8pm, Wknds before 1pm. 202-210-2914.

KENS/NIH—Sh lg quiet NS TH, MSBR w/pvt ba+den. $725+dep. incl uts ac, w/d. 301-929-0000

LAUREL—TH to shr, Lrg 12X28 bsmt., w/w cpt, W/D, Nr Bus & Shpng, private entr. $650/mo. Utils Incl. **240-475-4072 or 301-498-6244.**

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Rockv/ N Beth—$520
1 furn BR wk bus shp
SFH shr ba ktch catv DSL w/d 301-881-2044

SIL SPG—Share 2BR 2FBA condo, nr Public transp, $500 incl utils, secur depos req 301-434-2218

STERLING—M/F, Shr apt, MBR w/pvt BA on Rte 7 & 28. Sunny pond view. fpl. $663+ ½ utils. 703-444-3936

WOODBRIDGE/LAKERIDGE—NS Male to sh house, nice area, cls to Mall $450-500/mo +utils. 703-819-3257

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sz06 $207,000. Penthse. 1BR condo., beaut move-in cond., new appls., lux bldg., grt loc. 5340 Holmes Run Pkwy.
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Exciting 1-BR + den, cathedral ceiling, fireplace, great condition, shuttle bus to Metro!
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FALLS CH/$299.9K/Skyline Sq-2BR, 2BA, ltd time **drastic** price red. for any ofr that closes by 1/15/06, then back to $314,900. $30K Under mkt! For details. Tom Millar, **C21 New Millenium RE 703-963-4803**

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Alexandria/Belle Haven $895,000
BELLE HAVEN ESTATES!
GORGEOUS 1/2 ACRE HOMESITE ADJACENT TO PARKLAND. SOLID BUILT 4BR, 2 CAR GARAGE. HOME READY FOR RENOVATION!
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No Closing Costs, 5BR Colo
$3000 Cash Back. 2.5BA
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Magnificent renovated family home, situated on a 20,616 sq. ft lot. w/in ground swimming pool!

- 4 or 5 bedrooms, 2 baths
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- Wood Burning Fireplace
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- Kitchenette in Basement

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RE/MAX Colonial Homes, Tanya, 703-929-3060

FT WASHINGTON 805 OTHMAN DRIVE
Elegant 4BR/3BA split foyer in Tantallon No. w/all the Bells & Whistles on a huge lot. Must See. Susie Moore Associates 301-449-7979

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Just Renovated
Cute 3 bdrm 2 bath rancher on fenced 2.0 +/- level lot. Perfect location. 703-851-2895

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Call Ray **RE/MAX 100 301-702-4243**

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LEDROIT PARK—Two Unit Two 1BRs, each unit 1000 SF, 201 V St. N.W. 3000 SF buildable lot in back or private parking. $653,000 w/seller closing help avail.

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N.E.—Great prices on two houses in the N.E. Section of Wash. DC & Two houses in S.E. D.C. also for sale. Please call 202-396-2182 or 202-486-8932 for details. Must be able to close & act quickly.

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Price Reduced! Newly Renov, Ready For New Owner. 3 BR Col, Brazilian Chry Wd Flrs, Granite, Brkfst Bar, 2 Car Gar, & more. Call Sylvia, 202-549-7459

NW/1460 PARK RD—About 900 s.f., for ofc. or other business use on 2nd flr. $1500/mo. Avl. 2/06. 301-230-2318

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RIXEYVILLE, VA **$325,000**
6 AC. Barn. 4BR 2BA Rambler. Owner motivated. Bring all offers. MLS CU5455095. Call Ruth Azzara, Jobin Realty, 540-903-0902.

SE—Beaut det split hse, 3BR 2BA, cac. Call David: 301-434-9490 X-336, Long & Foster

Springdale **$475,000**
No Money Down
Springdale area, charming 6 yr old Col w/ Vaulted Ceilings, French Doors, 3 lvls, 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 2 car Gar. 24hr Free recorded into: 1-800-636-8214; ID #2004 Tyree Lewis 301-249-6603 RE/MAX ONE

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UPPER MARLBORO **$285,000**
Spac 3 lvl TH w/3BR, 2½BA, formal DR, TS Kit, full fin bsmt, walk out lot. Purchaser select new carpet & appls colors. Viola Jackson Laird
RE/MAX Allegiance **301-918-3377**

Upper Marlboro-Marlton **$345,000**
Priced Below Market
Foyer entrance, 3 lvls, 3 BR, 3 BA, Vaulted Ceilings, Deck, Patio, Back to woods, 2 car Gar. 24hr Free recorded info: 1-800-636-8214; ID #3001 Tyree Lewis 301-249-6603 RE/MAX ONE

Vienna - Steps to Metro—Town Home - Large 3 levels with walk-out basement & brick fireplace 3 bedrooms, 2 full/2 half baths. Beautiful condition - must see!!! $495K 703.898.8409 by owner.

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FORD '97 F150 Lariat 4x4—135K mi, tow, run brds, bedlnr, all pwr. excel shape, $7500 703-759-2699

HUMMER '03 H2—Auto, 8k mi, Metallic Sage, AM/FM, Cassette, CD, Insp, Snrf, Mnrf, AC, PW/PDL, PS, ABS, Alloys, Cruise, Tilt, $41500, 703-475-4112

TOYOTA '90 CAMRY Station Wagon—Auto, runs great, nice body, blue $1200 202-744-7187

YAMAHA '04 ATV—blue, $1500. Excellent Cond.
HONDA '00 70—Excellent condition, $700. 301-343-6904

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.50 ct. Diamond Necklace	$3950.00	$495
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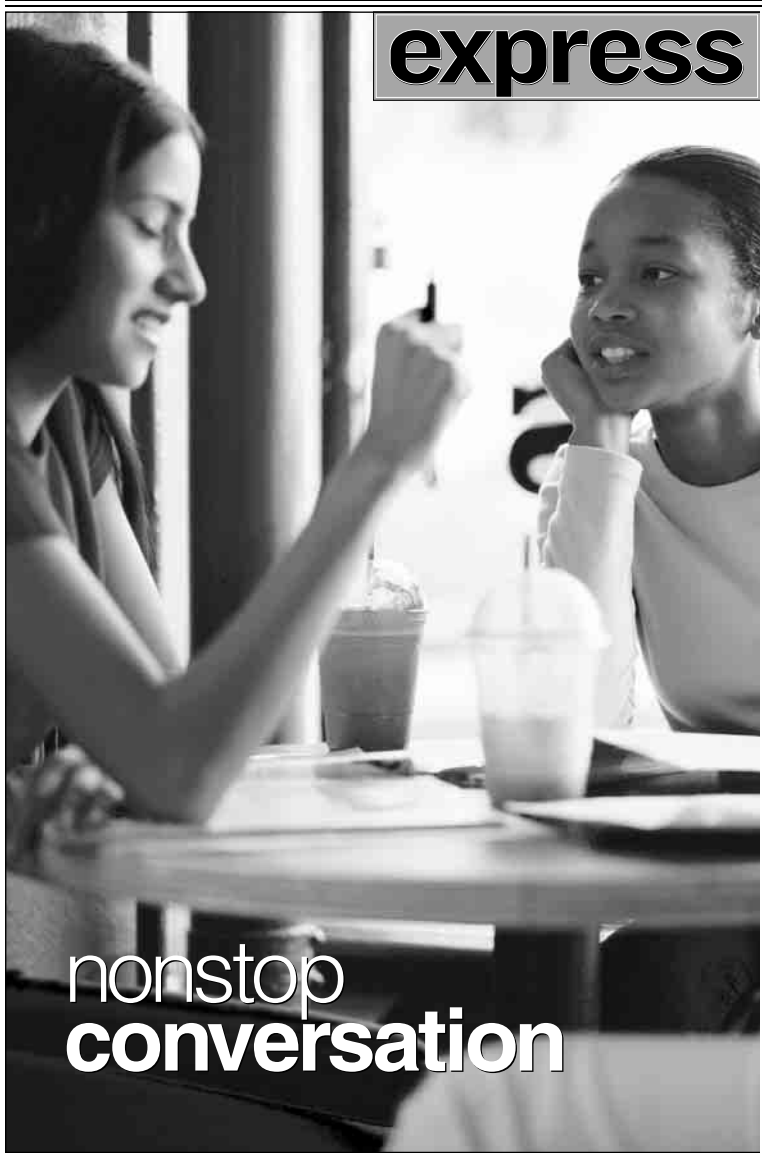

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Look out

TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

INSIDE

Renee and Kenny were, legally, never married. The end. | 30

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ROBERT GAUTHIER/L.A. TIMES

METER MADE: The PowerTap SL power meter digitally measures wattage, speed, pedal cadence, ride time and heart rate.

You Know Watt

Workouts

Power meters give bike riders a better tool to gauge efforts

Golfers measure their progress in strokes. Marathoners map out their improvement in minutes. And weightlifters track their strength in pounds. But what's a bicyclist to do?

Elite and weekend riders alike record their workouts by monitoring average speed, heart rate and perceived exertion. Yet speed can be thrown off by wind and elevation, heart rate can be affected by caffeine and weather, and your own assessment of exertion is subjective and unscientific. What's more, none of it tells you if you're getting in better shape.

To solve this problem, a growing number of recreational riders are strapping wattage meters on their handlebars, taking advantage of lower prices for the gizmos and the promise of unrivaled workout data.

A "power meter," as wattage meters are also known, offers a precise snapshot of true effort, an apples-to-apples comparison of fitness from one day to the next. If you can put out an average of 225 watts for 30 minutes in June, and 250 watts for 30 minutes in July — both at the same heart rate — you are in fact pushing the pedals more than 10 percent harder. That's why trainers and athletes are convinced power meters will soon replace heart-rate monitors as the favored sports gadget, especially for cycling, in which power is so easily recorded. Newer stationary bicycles now display wattage.

"Wattage is a true indication of what your body is doing," said Lance Armstrong, who relied on a wattage meter to prepare for his seven consecutive Tour de France victories.

Regardless of the manufacturer, power meters work the same basic way. By gauging infinitesimal strains, or torque, placed on a bike's components, they constantly determine a rider's physical output in watts, a measure of power in a specific time.

> "The goal is to push your LT higher, and to produce more watts at or below your LT."
>
> **RICK BABINGTON**
> A COLORADO TRAINER, ON HOW WATTAGE METERS CAN HELP BICYCLE RIDERS ESTABLISH MAXIMUM SUSTAINABLE POWER AT LACTATE THRESHOLD, OR 'LT'

During a ride, the meter sends that data to a cyclometer mounted on the handlebars. In addition to tracking the current, average and maximum watts, the unit also logs speed, pedal cadence, ride time, distance and, with a chest strap monitor, heart rate. After the ride, you slip the cyclometer into a cradle linked to a personal computer, which uploads the data and transforms it into a spreadsheet displaying everything from the total calories burned to your average and maximum heart rates.

That spreadsheet can be transmitted via the Internet to an online coach, allowing the coach to badger you for not trying hard enough even if he's 1,000 miles away.

That kind of long-distance coaching has become popular, thanks to the amount of ride data you can relay via the Internet.

You can use the meter to establish your maximum sustainable power at lactate threshold, or "LT," the point at which muscles produce lactate acid faster than the body can clear it. Exercise above that level for even a minute, and you will soon feel as if you are climbing Mount Everest — without oxygen.

"The goal," said Rick Babington of Carmichael Training Systems in Colorado, "is to push your LT higher, and to produce more watts at or below your LT."

In other words, be stronger with less exertion. It sounds simple. But what follows are agonizing workouts, all recorded by a power meter, an effusive friend on good days and a backstabbing snitch on bad ones.

To improve wattage, Babington said, focus on workout intervals, measured in what's called "critical power." Critical power is wattage over a defined time period.

For 30 minutes climbing a mountain, Armstrong can turn out nearly 500 watts. Sprinters may have remarkably high critical power figures for a few seconds, though endurance racers can maintain a strong power output for half a day.

It's an invaluable tool for riders eager to find new ways to improve performance. Wattage meters "are going to be the standard," said Dr. Shannon Sovndal of the coaching company Thrive HFM. "It's what cycling has been looking for." JOHN HORN (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

Look out | Voices

Road Safety | Drinking & Driving

AMY BERNING of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration was online Thursday discussing alcohol-impaired driving | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

What is affected first when drinking: speech motor skills, physical stamina or reasoning ability?
As blood alcohol concentration increases, most people first experience some loss of judgment and muscle control. At higher levels, reaction time slows and speech begins to slur.

What can we do if we see a driver on the road and we suspect that they are drunk?
We can use all the help we can get — this is everyone's problem. You should call your local law enforcement agency (you can carry their number in your car). If you don't know your local number, call 911 and report the incident. Make sure to give as complete information as possible regarding the location, vehicle and driver. You'll want to pull over to the side of the road first before you make the call.

I think it is completely irresponsible for D.C. to not keep the Metro running later than it does. Everyone knows that the party doesn't stop at 2 a.m.
We agree that alternative transportation is needed after partying and drinking. In the D.C. area, we have the benefit of the SoberCab program which provides free cab rides home until January 1. SoberCab's number is 1-800-200-TAXI.

Does alcohol affect women differently than men?
It can. A person's BAC (blood alcohol concentration) can vary based on a number of factors — and you're right _ gender is one of them. Women typically have less water and more body fat per pound of body weight than men. And alcohol does not go into fat cells as easily as other cells, so more alcohol remains in the blood of women.

Friends have always told me that drinking beer doesn't affect a driver as much as hard liquor. Is this true?
Actually, "a drink is a drink is a drink" — and approximately the same amount of alcohol will be found in one shot of distilled spirits or one five-ounce glass of wine or one 12-ounce beer.

Is it OK to just have one or two before driving?
It's important to know that impairment can begin with just one drink. All states now have .08 BAC per se laws which means that a person can be arrested for DWI if their BAC is at or above .08. However, if a person's driving shows signs of impairment and an officer has probable cause, a person can be arrested at a lower BAC.

➜ Today on Live Online

11 A.M.: Security Fix blogger Brian Krebs answers your questions about the latest computer security threats and offer ways to protect your personal information.

Letters

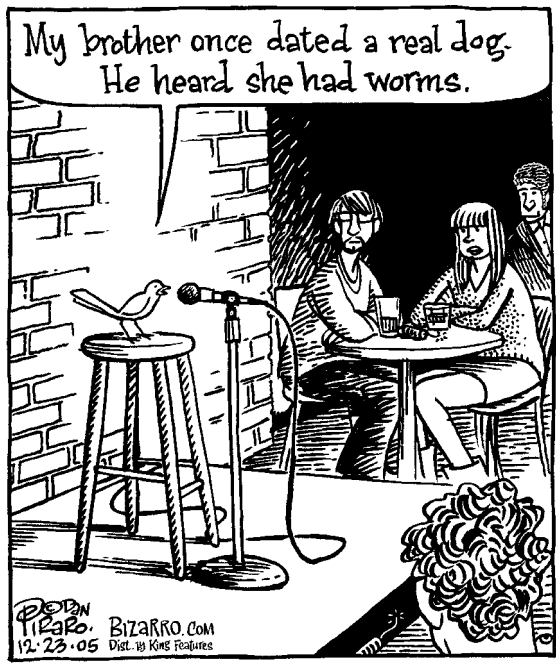
Behind the Budget Battle

YOUR ARTICLE ON DEC. 22 about the Senate vote on the budget bill omitted crucial information about the controversy surrounding the budget. All Senate Democrats and a handful of moderate Republicans voted against the budget reduction measures because cuts were made from programs that assist the poor while leaving intact funding for insurance companies and other industries that can afford to hire high-priced lobbyists — at a time when Congress intends to make permanent tax cuts that help the wealthiest Americans. Further, the budget is not final and the House has to vote again on the measure.

—VICKI GOTTLICH
Senior Policy Attorney
Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc.
Washington, D.C.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

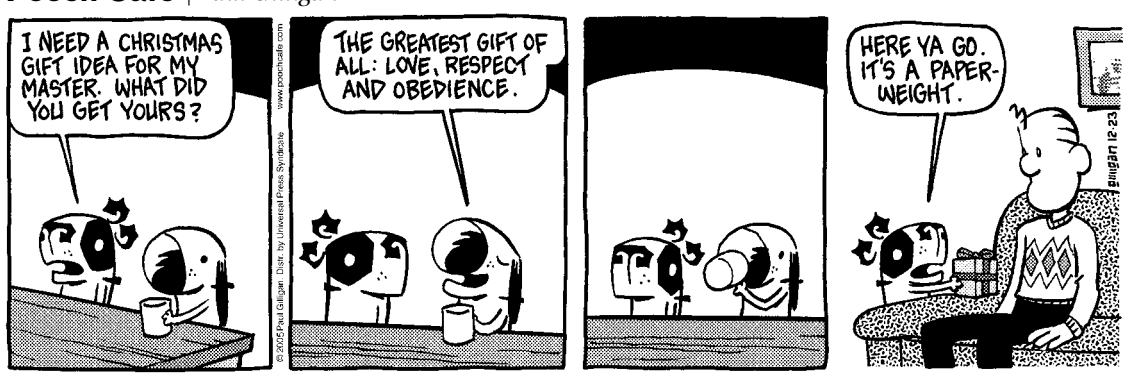
Bizarro | *Dan Piraro*



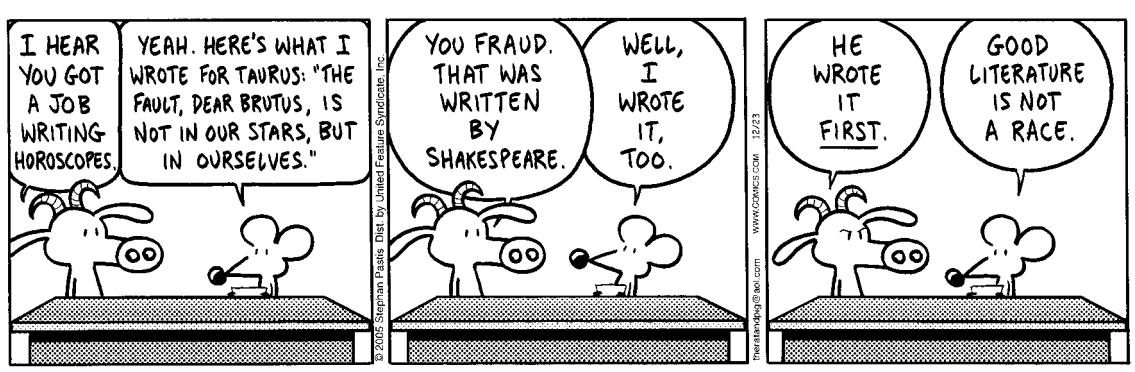
Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*

"She never listens – unless I'm talking in my sleep."

Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*



The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*

Look out

TRANSIT RETURNS!

"I'm pretty sure they ended this strike because of the fear that the population of New York City would rise as one and slay all 33,000 transit workers."

LIVEJOURNAL.COM/USERS/ROMPER_STOMPER ON THE END OF THE NEW YORK TRANSIT WORKERS' STRIKE

THE Blog LOG

EXCUSES

"Brett Favre was a joke on Monday ... I am soooo tired of hearing all the 'code phrases' that surround this guy like an invisible cloak of excuses. 'He's got nobody around him.' 'He's trying to make plays.' 'All he wants to do is win.'"

STEVE CZABAN (CZABE.COM) EXPECTS MORE FROM THE PACKERS QUARTERBACK.

BRAND EXTENSIONS

"Paging the MacArthur Foundation: Some dark genius had a dark night of the soul and somehow found a way to make 'Sex and the City' EVEN MORE STUPID."

LINDSAYISM.COM ON THE ANIMATED "SEX AND THE CITY" SHORTS ON TBS.COM

INTELLIGENCE

"[It's] mostly the (Republican, Christian, G.W. Bush-appointed) judge saying, 'You people are wrong. And idiots. And, by the way, a pack of liars. Please stop trying to pawn off a thinly disguised creationism as 'Intelligent Design Science,' because we WILL deliver the smackdown.'"

LIVEJOURNAL.COM/USERS/HERBIVOROUS ON THE RULING BY A FEDERAL JUDGE BARRING THE DOVER, PA., SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM TEACHING INTELLIGENT DESIGN

I'VE BEEN NAUGHTY

"I was also glad to hear Head Elf's report that everyone in Santa's Toy Shop is enjoying the new music CDs."

SANTA UPDATES THE WORLD ON HIS DOINGS AT 360.YAHOO.COM/YULEBLOG.

DO feed your cuteness addiction. Get a rush from awwww-inducing photos of animals? Cuteoverload.com is the adorableness dealer that can satisfy the craving of any preciousness junkie. Sound off! Kittens in couches? Check! Baby hippos underwater? Check! Rabbits eating cookies? Yeaah, that's the stuff.

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your worries will not be as self-involved as they have been recently. Your focus is broadening; others may need you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) It's important to "hide" your efforts, so others will think the results come easily and naturally for you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) A confrontation may be brewing with someone who possesses aggressive energy; take care not to get hurt.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you expect to compete with an "expert," you may need to brush up on your skills. Know what you're talking about!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You should put your best foot forward, without exerting more effort than usual. Style and substance are yours.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Your eyes are likely to be opened to rare options, heretofore unrecognized. You'll see a new way of doing things.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Now is not the time to strive for perfection. There are too many variables and too many obstacles. Do the best you can.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may bridge the gap between what you want and what you need. Indeed, by day's end, a major jumble will seem clear to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You'll have the chance to put two and two together and come up with an unusual sum. As a result, you can increase profits and pleasure.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) While you're thinking of permanence and stability, someone close may act impulsively, even irresponsibly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Your ideas, good as they are, may clash with those of a superior. You can be sure that lengthy negotiation is likely to follow.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Your style and magnetism will serve you well. Though you may not be "in charge," you can influence the authorities.

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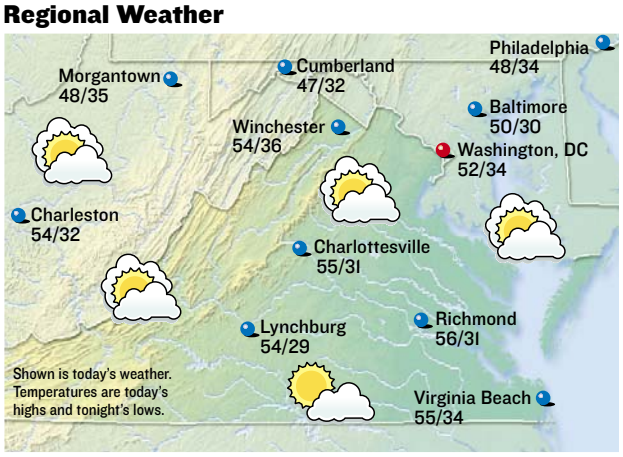
5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly sunny, mild afternoon	Patchy clouds	Partly sunny, mild	Areas of fog with periods of rain	Partly sunny	Partly sunny
52°	34°	54° / 40°	48° / 36°	50° / 34°	48° / 32°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2005

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.

Temperature

High	40°
Low	27°
Normal high	45°
Normal low	31°
Average humidity	59%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	2.19"
Normal month to date	2.15"
Year to date	43.23"
Last year to date	41.60"
Normal year to date	38.45"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

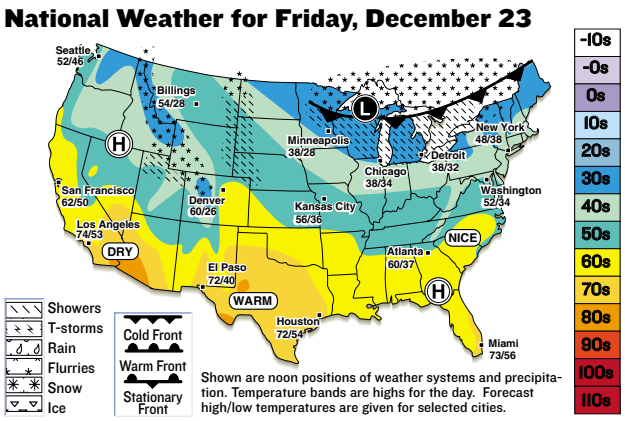
D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny, becoming milder. High 52. Wind southwest 8-14 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 34. Wind south-southwest 4-8 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:24 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:51 p.m.
Moonrise today	none
Moonset today	12:04 p.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Dec 23	Dec 30	Jan 6	Jan 14

National Weather for Friday, December 23



National Cities

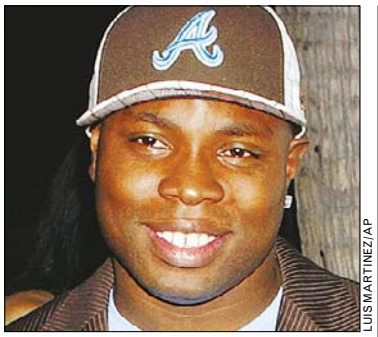
City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	60/37/s	56/41/sh
Boston	45/34/c	50/34/pc
Chicago	38/34/sh	38/28/sn
Dallas	70/48/s	63/39/pc
Denver	60/26/pc	51/27/s
Honolulu	81/63/pc	80/64/pc
Los Angeles	74/53/pc	80/54/s
Miami	73/56/pc	75/63/pc
New York City	48/38/pc	50/40/pc
Orlando	70/46/pc	72/56/pc
Seattle	52/46/r	55/44/sh

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	48/43/sh	46/41/sh
Athens	52/43/c	48/39/sh
Berlin	41/37/pc	45/36/sh
Buenos Aires	86/60/t	79/62/s
Calgary	49/31/c	47/30/pc
Dublin	50/43/pc	46/39/pc
Geneva	39/30/c	44/27/s
Moscow	17/8/sn	13/13/c
Rome	52/39/pc	52/34/s
Sydney	82/72/pc	90/63/t
Tokyo	50/37/pc	48/34/sh

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Look out | People



LUIS MARTINEZ/AP

THE LAST WORD

Fired Actor Endlessly Done Talking About It

It was confusing enough when **PAGE KENNEDY** was dismissed from the cast of "Desperate Housewives" for "improper conduct." Now the actor/rapper is offering some terrible but no doubt cathartic rhymes on his Web site. In the self-penned "Hold On," Kennedy raps, "Let me set the record straight/ My departure was part of a particular incident/That I'm done mentioning." (EXPRESS)

LOOKALIKES

Whoever Thought of Acting Disabled First, Uh, Wins

If you think "The Ringer," about a guy who pretends to be mentally disabled to rig the Special Olympics, sounds familiar, so did Trey Parker and Matt Stone. The "South Park" creators aired a 2004 episode in which **CARTMAN** pretends to be etcetera. But Peter Farrelly, who co-produced the film with brother Bobby, told Variety, "There is no way those guys didn't know we were making this very movie." (EXPRESS)

AP

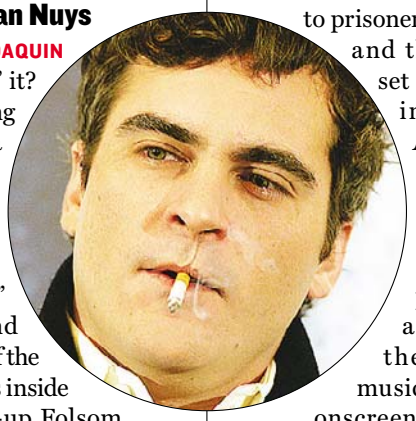
NEPENTHE

'I Do' Becomes 'We Never Did'

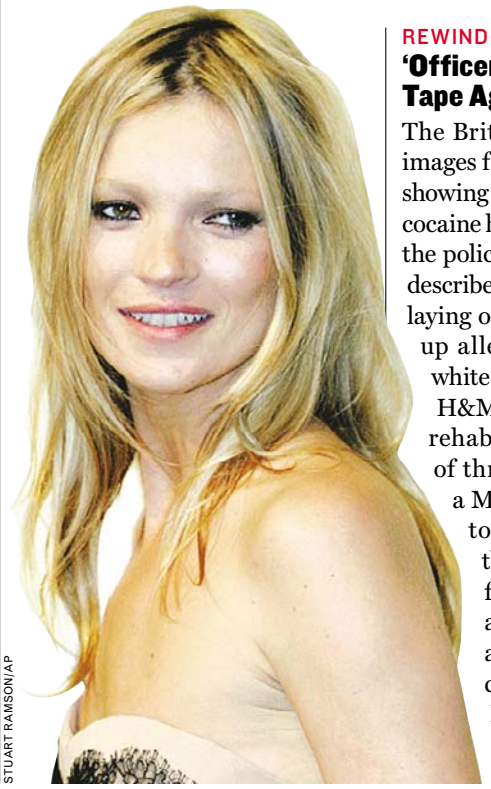
RENEE ZELLWEGER's marriage to country crooner **KENNY CHESNEY** never existed — at least in the eyes of the law. The couple's union has been annulled by the Los Angeles Superior Court, according to documents obtained this week by the television show "Extra." In California, an annulment may be granted when either party in the marriage is under 18, of unsound mind, bound to a previous marriage or if the consent to marry was obtained by fraud or force. In court papers filed last September, Zellweger listed "fraud" as the reason she was seeking an annulment after four months of marriage. (AP)

AUTHENTICITY

He Hasn't Shot a Man in Reno, but He Did Upbraid a Hamster in Van Nuys



How real is **JOAQUIN PHOENIX** keepin' it? So real he's going to a California state prison for his art. The star of the Johnny Cash biopic "Walk the Line" will be on hand for a screening of the film for inmates inside infamous lock-up Folsom Prison, where Cash recorded his groundbreaking live album in 1968. The California Prison Fellowship, which partners with churches across the country to minister to prisoners, ex-prisoners and their families, set up the screening for Jan. 3. As far as we can tell, the Golden Globe-nominated Phoenix has no plans to record an album in the style of the musician he played onscreen. Unlike some deluded stars we could name, Jamie Foxx. (EXPRESS)



STUART RAMSON/AP

REWIND

'Officer Cheshire, Run the Tape Again Slower, Please'

The British tabloid that printed images from a videotape allegedly showing model **KATE MOSS** snorting cocaine has turned the tape over to the police. After the Daily Mirror described the über-waif chopping, laying out and allegedly snurfing up alleged lines of an alleged white powder, she lost gigs with H&M and Burberry. A stint in rehab followed, as did covers of three major glossies. Now, a Mirror staffer who refused to be identified said that the original tape has been forked over to police under a judge's orders. Will Moss' alleged naughtiness be discussed in court and, as the December edition of Vanity Fair asked, "Can she come back?" (EXPRESS)

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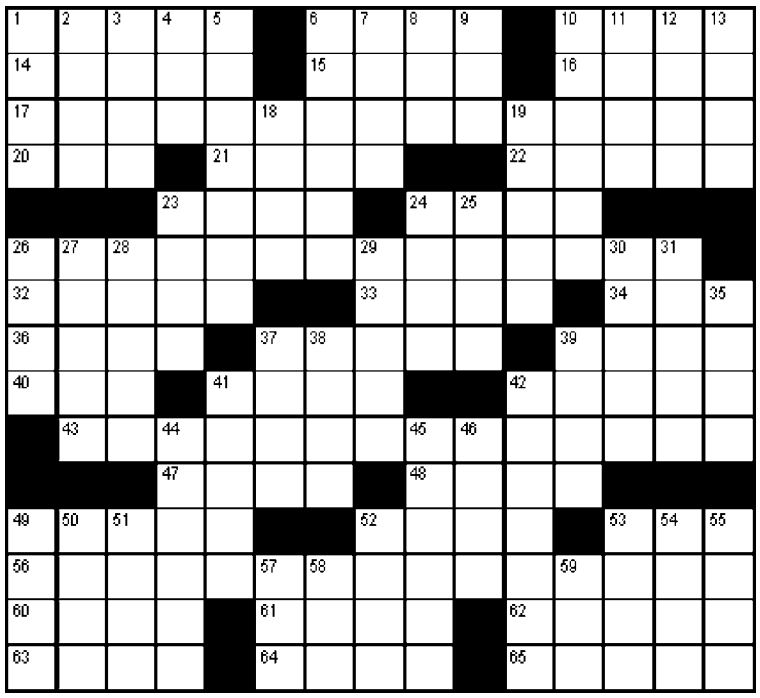
LOOK out

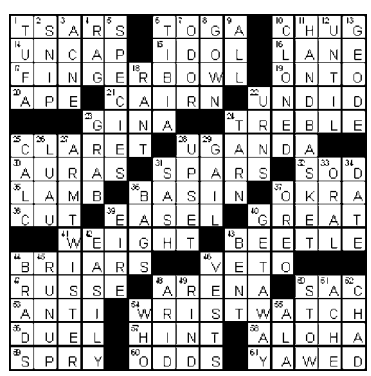
Ta-Ta | *Edited by Timothy E. Parker*



ACROSS
1 It could be a board member?
6 Midwife's action
10 Pre-storm status
14 Unrivaled
15 Garb for Galba
16 Featured instrument of "Peter and the Wolf"
17 Philip Roth book
20 Suited to the task
21 It's what you may be happy as
22 Election Day goals
23 Top-notch
24 Capricorn, symbolically
26 Certain sale-closing words
32 Samms and Peel
33 Unwonted
34 Remain extant
36 Prison sentences
37 Great deal
39 Geneticist's studies
40 Ship's dir., perhaps
41 Rat tail?
42 Utah mountain range
43 Memorable ballad
47 Klutz's remark
48 British corps.
49 Davidic song
52 Unoriginal one
53 Call to Bo Peep
56 Caesarian delivery?
60 Raison d'___
61 Significant stretches of time
62 Some things for one to do
63 Spray target, perhaps
64 Hardly a veteran
65 Heated conflict

DOWN
1 Multigenerational story, e.g.
2 Hoofbeat sound
3 Prefix follower
4 Abolish
5 Online journals
6 Typical introduction?
7 Wrestling hold
8 In the past
9 One close to you
10 Regain consciousness
11 "Take a Chance on Me" singers
12 Barbarian
13 Base fare
18 Yin go-with
19 Application
23 Collections of miscellany
24 Black fly
25 Fairy-tale monster
26 "Sommersby" star
27 One from the Gulf of Masirah
28 Urge forward
29 More than peeved
30 Many a pram pusher
31 Sister of Terpsichore
35 Hairy one of Genesis
37 "___ this way!"
38 Bidder's option
39 Archaeological sites
41 Type of boa or serpent
42 Prepare for a change?
44 Dawdled
45 Texas city on the Rio Grande
46 Road, for Caesar
49 "What a relief!"
50 Satisfy completely
51 River through Leeds
52 Way out there
53 Martial artist's pride
54 Oodles
55 "Not only that ..."
57 Badminton need
58 On the wagon
59 Begone beginning

Yesterday's Solution



Sunday in The Washington Post

Secular Songs: Christmas tunes reign on radio this week, but listeners are more likely to hear Bing Crosby than a traditional carol. | *Arts*

Take This Job and ...: It's finally time to tell your boss you're moving on. How to break the news without burning bridges. | *Business*

Su|do|ku | © *Puzzles by Pappocom*

Degree of Difficulty: HARD

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

			6				9	
9								2
			1	9	2			5
		3			1	2		
2				4				7
		4	3			6		
4			9	6	5			
5								8
	3				8			

Yesterday's Solution

8	5	1	4	6	3	2	9	7
3	4	7	8	2	9	5	1	6
2	6	9	1	7	5	8	3	4
4	9	2	3	1	6	7	8	5
7	3	6	9	5	8	4	2	1
1	8	5	2	4	7	9	6	3
5	1	8	7	3	2	6	4	9
9	7	3	6	8	4	1	5	2
6	2	4	5	9	1	3	7	8

Can't get enough Sudoku? Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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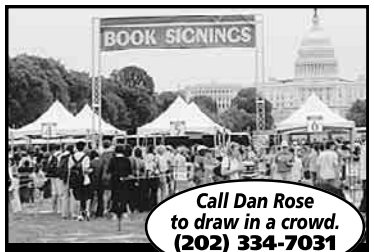

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When You Don't Care:

Extremely last-minute gifts for those you didn't buy for | T5

Plane Relief

Pre-flight diversions at local airports

Cheer & Loathing

Blogger James Furdell doesn't hate Christmas, but he freaking despises D.C.

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THINGS WE FIND ROMANTIC, WRINKLED, GLOSSY, FURBISH AND NEIGHBORLY

1 iPod Match

PodDater.com doesn't analyze iPod playlists to gauge romantic compatibility, as we'd hoped. Rather, the free site, which launched in November, offers video personals for viewing on any video-enabled portable media player (or regular old computers). Sadly — at least with regards to entertainment value — few daters seem to be posting videos. Boooo.

5 Second-Gen Furby Hacking

When Furbies came out in 1996, the interactive toy proved irresistible to techies who wanted to tinker with its innards. A reengineered Furby returns this year, but will hackers answer the call? "If Santa sees fit to drop one of those little fellows by, he'll likely end up under the knife (the Furby, not Santa)," hackfurby.com's Jason Pelzer said in an e-mail. Santa, please?

2 Being Rumpled and Unkempt

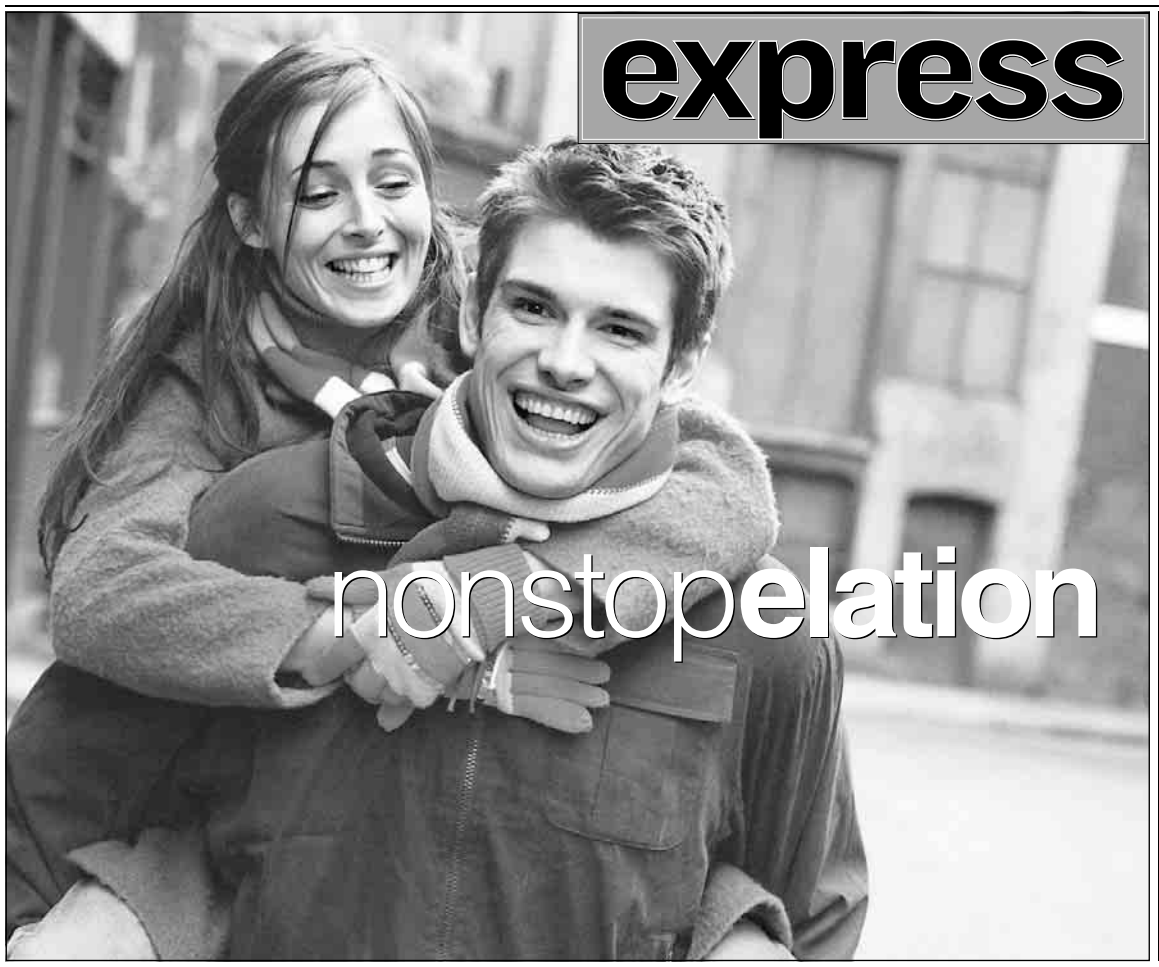
Ethics aren't the only things that need straightening out in D.C. According to a new survey by iron-maker Rowenta, which clearly has too bored a marketing department, Washington has the largest percentage — 21.8! — of people who iron less than once a month. This horrific statistic suggests there's more wrong with Beltway style than merely the tennis shoe/nude hose combo. Have some self-esteem, people. Make time for yourself.

3 Bob's Cards

Um, didn't get a card from Maryland Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich? You must have been pretty naughty 'cause the guy sent out 40,000 (besting the next closest governor by 12,500 cards). Gotta feel bad for whoever had to do all of that stamp licking.

4 Journalism

Jen Steele snagged the coveted Seventeen magazine internship on MTV's "Miss Seventeen," leading the way for more journalism reality shows. Rolling Stone is next.



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PRE-BOARDING SCHOOL: Roll into Vino Volo, left, for a sauvignon blanc or shrimp satay at Dulles, or scan the runways from a front-row seat in BWI's cavernous observation gallery, right.

Golden Gates

Amuse yourself between baggage check and boarding

If every airport had a Starbucks and a Cinnabon, most people would be just fine. But airports think we need more — higher-end dining options, boutique shopping and spa services, for example. Even poor old stuck-in-the-'60s Dulles is getting a makeover. So if you're going to be spending most of your holiday waiting at the gate, enjoy some new (and very old) pre-flight perks.

National Airport was built on top of a plantation; this used to be the kitchen.

WASHINGTON DULLES INTERNATIONAL

Dulles is undergoing a ginormous renovation, with new shops and eateries flooding in over the next few months. Most aren't ready for the holiday crowd, but Vino Volo is. The sleek wine bar, which opened in September, looks like something that dropped into concourse C from another planet. But the staff takes kindly to humans. The drinks are sold by the glass or the triple glass flight, like California Kings, a collection of Atalon Cabernet Sauvignon, Belvedere Merlot and Renard Syrah ($11). Dishes, available in small finger-food portions or appetizer sizes, come in varieties like Chickpea and Sausage Casserole ($7/$12) and Lentil Braised with Bacon ($8/$14). The yummies can be boxed up for you to eat on board, and they sell vino by the bottle, too (have a hostess gift ready when you deplane). Dulles is the first location for the alcoholic oasis, but Vino Volo is eyeing several other airports.

Once renovations at Dulles are complete, expect many more spots to get sloshed, including two branches of Clarendon fave Harry's Tap Room (pre- and post-security outposts), a Tex-Mex-themed Jose Cuervo Tequileria, and a Gordon Biersch, known for its brews and garlic french fries.

There's more than just booze at Dulles, although you might think that's what Massage Bar is about — the concourse B parlor uses liquor lingo to sell its services, mostly back rubs and foot treatments. A single "shot" ($21) here will loosen you up in 15 minutes. A double ($39) is a half-hour.

→LAST-MINUTE SHOPPING: The Smithsonian store offers everything from Navajo folk art chickens to panda-related gear. Mindworks, a toy shop, has i-Dog, Black Belts Karate and other hot kids items. And the male-friendly gadget store Chesapeake Journeys just opened.

The new baggage claims at BWI are all retro with their Ms. Pac-Man games.

RONALD REAGAN WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT

Like Dulles, National is about to undergo a mondo renewal, complete with new stores and restaurants. No word on what that will mean exactly — although we hear a wine bar is in the works. But the coolest thing at this airport is 200 years old.

You may have dashed by it with your wheelie, but you've probably never noticed the preserved archaeological site squeezed between the terminal A and B parking lots. National is built on the remains of Abingdon Plantation, a 6,000-acre site once owned by the Alexander family (as in Alexandria) and George Washington's stepson. Slip off the walkway between the lots to a path that leads up a green mound, where you'll find the ruins of the house, part of a brick wall, and a plaque.

Winter is perhaps not the best time to enjoy the grassy knoll and benches, so there's an indoor component as well. Go up the stairs off the terminal A lobby, which lead to a room labeled "Exhibit Hall." Inside, there are a few cases containing bits of coins, china and other goodies, plus a video explaining the history of the plantation. If you're annoyed by people who

Continued on page T4

Last-Minute Mania

Butt-saving gifts for the lazy, exhausted, uncaring or forgetful

CRAP. IT HAPPENED AGAIN. You're on your way to Christmas dinner, call to let your friend know you're on your way, and she signs off with, "You're going to loooove your present!"—which you weren't planning to reciprocate. Here are some spots for Dec. 25 meltdowns.

➜ **7-11.** You could make it a Very Beef Jerky Christmas, but that's kind of gross. 7-11 carries a **VARIETY OF GIFT CARDS**, including Lowe's, Foot Locker, Bass Pro Shops, iTunes and the airline America West, making it easier for annoying guests to head home. If a gift card is too impersonal, pick up a **THE REASON FOR THE SEASON** isn't really large quantities of sugar, meat and caffeine, but they help. **TOY SLURPEE MACHINE** ($35), which sounds awesome.

➜ **SAFEWAY.** Who doesn't eat meat? Well, plenty of people — but that doesn't mean you don't know someone who would enjoy this **SALAME GIFT BOX** ($18), with three ways to enjoy the Food Formerly Known as Pig. Vegetarians will be quite pleased with the **BRITA ON TAP WATER FILTER** ($40). DVD racks have a bunch of new releases, including **"THE 40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN"** ($20). Theme gifts are a snap — the relaxation package can contain bubble bath, lotion and a loofah (add condoms for a different message), and the gourmet would go gaga over good bottles of olive oil and balsamic vinegar. If all else fails, pick up one of their stockings and stuff it with fruit and candy. Many Safeways will be closed Christmas Day, but a few will be open.

➜ **WAWA.** The pretentious boutique of convenience stores, Wawa offers coffee ($3 per bag) and biscotti (79 cents each) respectable-looking enough to pass as a thoughtful present. Claim that Wawa coffee is the unheralded star of the bean universe. They also have a mini chocolate box/giftcard holder ($2.50); swing by 7-11 for the card. KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY AND VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

Golden Gates

Continued from page T3

call the airport Reagan instead of National, call it Abingdon and make them feel like total outsiders.

➜ **LAST-MINUTE SHOPPING:** Sweater store Knit Etc. set up shop about a month ago. It mostly sells tops, but the knitted skirts are gorgeous, too, if a tad pricey. The Smithsonian and National Geographic stores mean there's a ton of panda merch.

Wipe away the terrible memories of flying coach at Dulles' Massage Bar.

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON THURGOOD MARSHALL AIRPORT

BWI's got a new sexy name and a new sexy concourse, the latter for Southwest. It's got local flavor in the form of California Tortilla, Mayorga Coffee and Phillip's Seafood. The baggage carousels are worth a visit, not only because they're shiny and pretty like everything else in the concourse, but because they've put in arcade games like Ms. Pac-Man. We kid you not.

If you're not flying Southwest, you can still explore the observation gallery. The huge pre-security space with comfy chairs and an awe-inspiring view of the runway is scattered with monsterously huge pieces of a 737. There's a mini airplane museum, with panels explaining the magic of flying. There's a play area where kids can reenact what it's like to be a baggage handler or air traffic controller. And there's artwork by area children that is scary good. All that, and it's fairly quiet, so you can curl up with a book without being disturbed.

SUPERIOR COURT: If you look hard enough, you can see California Tortilla peeking out at BWI's vast new concourse, above. Squeeze a history lesson into your flight out of National with this info-packed exhibit on Abingdon Plantation, below.

If you want to meditate, however, there's a room just for that, near the international concourse. Its charm is that it's totally '80s, from the chairs to the pink background that looks like what you had to pose in front of for school portraits.

The only place to smoke in the whole airport is the new Bill Bateman's Bistro. This would be annoying for the nicotine addicted if the wings at this Baltimore chain weren't so darned delicious. Get 12 for $8.

➜ **LAST-MINUTE SHOPPING:** The new concourse boasts the first airport Jos. A. Banks ever. Or stock up on Old Bay seasonings at Celebrate Maryland. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

Hate for the Holidays

Whyihatedc's creator brings the negativity

Q&A | James Furdell moved to D.C. five years ago expecting to find a city like any other. Instead he found his arch-nemesis. From crooked politicos to the dysfunctional subway system, the things that make D.C. D.C. just made Furdell, 30, madder and more frustrated. So he started the now-infamous whyihatedc.blogspot.com. Joshua Davidovich sat down with the city's favorite online curmudgeon (who has nothing against the holidays, mind you) to bring you Express' gift to its cheer-saturated readers: Some good old-fashioned negativity.

You hate D.C. so much. What are you doing here?
My wife's in school to get her Ph.D.

You've been talking a lot about moving. Are you really leaving?
The plan is to try and get a job out-of-town somewhere. It's hard to target different cities. Seattle has always been my favorite city.

What about an 'I love Seattle' blog?
I think I'll probably go into why I hate something else, like why I hate religion.

Where does this hate come from?
I moved here when I was 25 or 26. 9/11 happened, it was hard to find a job, then anthrax and then the sniper and then when the war started that was basically the last straw. I don't know where this war came from and I was completely frustrated with the people running things.

So do you hate the government or the city?
The structure here puts D.C. at a disadvantage. More than that, it creates a non-community community. People in Virginia think they can't be involved in Maryland or D.C. It creates a dissonance.

What about other cities you've lived in, like Atlanta?
Atlanta is kind of like Northern Virginia, an oasis in a sea of rednecks, but it did have its own personality.

Why do you pick on Dan Snyder so much?
What he does is symbolic of what goes on around here. You do well in business and then you think, oh, there's no reason my success in business can't translate into picking players for my football team. It's kind of fun to tear into that — and plus he has a lot of money.

What would you like to improve?
It would be nice to enfranchise D.C. Make it a part of one of the states or give it a vote in Congress.

Do you like anything about D.C.?
It's gotten a lot better. Baseball finally came to town. It's nice to have somewhere affordable to go. Clarendon's gotten built up and Chinatown has gotten a lot more interesting.

Why don't you run for office?
I have no experience with being diplomatic, and I'm a terrible liar.

Good tourist slogan for D.C. ...
Probably something like "Remember, kids, we parked on New Hampshire." You know, instead of we parked at Goofy or Mickey or something, because this place is Disneyland.

Which local tradition do you hate most?
The Kennedy Center Honors. They honor artists who did stuff 20 years ago that was considered taboo then by the same people that are honoring them. Why don't they realize this and be accepting of things now if they are going to honor them in 20 years?

Do you hate Christmas in D.C.?
I like it, in that people are nicer to each other and the tree is pretty.

DEAR MANOLO ►► THE SHOEBLOGGER ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

I've been invited to the very swanky party on New Year's Eve, but I'm a poor girl. Please help me find some super fantastic but affordable shoes. — BIRGITTA

Manolo says, the Eve of the New Years it is one of the most favorite nights of the year for the Manolo, as it gives your humble shoeblogging friend the Manolo the opportunity to slick back what is left of the hair, squeeze into the tuxedo (which has mysteriously grown

smaller over the preceding 12 months) and party like it is the 1999.

Even the better, it is the night when the Manolo gets to see the beautiful society womens go out in their fancy black dresses with the most super fantastic shoes on their feets, shoes that are surpassingly elegant and beautiful, and undoubtedly cost many hundreds of the American dollars.

How wonderful it is to know that at least one night of the year, everyone is attempting to look their most super fantastic. This it is the night for the Blahniks, and the Choos, and the Louboutins, shoes that express your love of elegance and your impeccable style.

Of the course, what are you to do if, like the friend of the Manolo, you cannot afford the shoe of the Choo? (Retail price it is more than what "the Man" he pays you for the entire week's

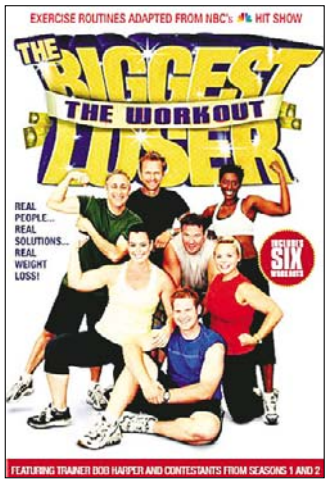
worth of the drudgery.)

Be not afraid, the Manolo he is here to help. Here are two beautiful shoes from the Vera Wang that are on the sale at the Zappos. From left, the black slingback with the sparkly sequined accents ($188), it is selling at the 63 percent discount. This second shoe, the elegant black pump with just enough of the tasteful bling ($236), is 53 percent off of the usual price. VISIT THE MANOLO AT SHOEBLOGS.COM AND HERE ON FRIDAYS.

mixed media

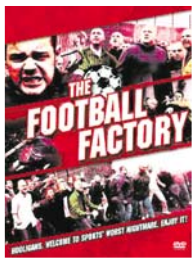
BOOKS, DVDS, CDS, GAMES AND OTHER STUFF

DVDS



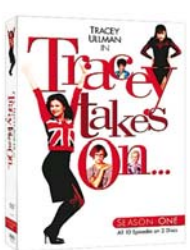
THE BIGGEST LOSER WORKOUT, VOL. I *($15)*
A perky trainer leading group exercises isn't so novel, but when it's a gang of chubby reality-show stars and celebrity fitness expert Bob Harper, that's an entertaining sweat session. There are six routines to mix-and-match from: a warm-up, low-intensity cardio, high-intensity cardio, strength & sculpt, boot camp and cool down. Bob happily shows the Losers ways to improvise in case you can't do jumping jacks or if bending in a certain way isn't going to happen. The Losers sometimes can't keep up, which makes it like a friendly kickboxing class at your local gym rather than working out with Olympians.
➜ **NOTABLE EXTRA:** Quickie retellings of how far Matt and Suzy progressed on the show are a rollercoaster of emotion — ohmigawd, Matt's not really giving up on the treadmill, is he?!! That they're now dating seems to be a coincidence.
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** "Hairspray."
➜ **IF YOU DON'T LIKE:** Fat camp.
VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

THE FOOTBALL FACTORY *($25)*
If Redskins fans and Ravens nuts created impromptu gangs, then proceed to get trashed, do drugs and beat the bejeezus out of one another, you'd have the rough U.S. equivalent of this Brit import about soccer-related violence. The Guardian deemed it "irresponsible," but laddie mag Loaded raved that it's "a snortin', boozin' barney of a film."



Based on a best-selling novel, and apparently somewhat realistic, it's about a soccer hooligan whose main thrill in life is his team, for which he expresses his ardor by kicking people in the head. But when he's severely beaten, he questions his decisions.
➜ **NOTABLE EXTRA:** In their commentary, director Nick Love (ironic, yes?) and star Danny Dyer provide insight into why on earth this movie was made.
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** Blood, "Trainspotting," testosterone. V.H.

TRACEY TAKES ON *($35)*



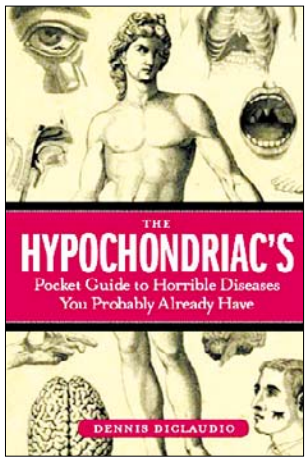
Jerry Seinfeld is fine comedian, and many people love Raymond, but those boys have nothing on Tracey Ullman, who can morph into virtually any character, from an Australian stunt woman with a midget husband to a male taxi driver. The first season of her show from 1996 has her embodying a cast of wackos dealing with one subject per episode, like romance. The quick bits — Ullman as an Asian donut shop owner explaining the similarities between love and fried dough — are hysterical, but the longer stories — in one, Julie Kavner (Marge from "The Simpsons") plays a lesbian golf pro who doesn't want Ullman to out her — are kinda serious.
➜ **NOTABLE EXTRA:** "Tracey Takes on New York" is just about the worst vacation ever. In a good way.
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** "Kids in the Hall," elderly Jewish women from Long Island, accents. V.H.

Move Over, Penguins

Of all of the colorful characters in San Francisco, none have quite the bold plumage as the conures who flutter around Telegraph Hill. To the uninitiated, they're just beautiful animals who eat and perch. But by watching "The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill" ($27) and meeting them through Mark Bittner, the unemployed musician who cared for the birds for years, you learn that each has a distinct personality, from Connor, the lone bluehead who welcomes outcasts, to Mingus, the dancer. The documentary follows the birds until Mark has to fly the coop. V.H.

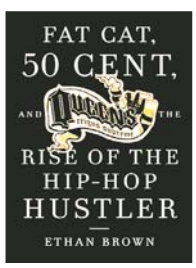
BOOKS

THE HYPOCHONDRIAC'S POCKET GUIDE TO HORRIBLE DISEASES YOU PROBABLY ALREADY HAVE *by Dennis Diclaudio (Bloomsbury, $15)*
Aspiring hypochondriacs and chronic complainers will enjoy learning about the 45 worst diseases (so far — let's go bird flu!) they could catch, all elucidated by Diclaudio's droll prose. Among the hideous illnesses profiled are necrotizing fasciitis, aka flesh-eating bacteria, and akinetic mutism, which causes one to lose the ability to move or speak forever. It makes for good cocktail-party chatter, too: You can grow horns on your head! And your cat can make you blind! (Via bacillary angiomatosis, or cat scratch disease.) The scary thing is that all of these diseases are real, and could be lurking around the corner. If you weren't a hypochondriac before reading THPGTHDYPAH, you might be after.



➜ **FIRST LINE:** "As we go about our daily lives — ordering a fourth round of mojitos, waiting in line at the supermarket to pay for our hummus, delicately hanging our photographs of tropical fish — there are a staggering number of things trying to get inside our bodies."
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** Weird diseases, books that can fit in large pockets.
JOSHUA DAVIDOVICH

QUEENS REIGNS SUPREME: FAT CAT, 50 CENT, AND THE RISE OF THE HIP-HOP HUSTLER *by Ethan Brown (Anchor Books, $13)*
Crack didn't just begin a crime epidemic, it kick-started hip-hop. The thesis of this history is that drug dealers were growing tired of getting killed all the time, and musicians didn't have any street cred, so they combined forces, thus creating the "hip-hop hustler." It's also a primer on early '80s drug culture that's full of unfun facts, such as how crack got its name: After you mix coke with baking soda and water, heat it and dry it under a lamp, it flakes.

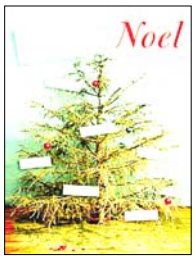


➜ **FIRST LINE:** "Irv 'Gotti' Lorenzo is ranting about the government with a ferocity and paranoia that are equal parts Oliver Stone and tinfoil-hat amateur conspiracy theorist."
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** "E! True Hollywood Story," "Scarface." V.H.

Toy Stories

In 1969, the GI Joe line was transformed into a set of hippie dolls who sported fuzzy facial hair and "Adventure Team" medallions that suspiciously resembled peace signs. This and other fascinating tidbits fill "Timeless Toys: Classic Toys and the Playmakers Who Created Them" by Tim Walsh (Andrews McMeel, $30). The coffee-table tome devotes a hefty three to six pages to each toy's microhistory. But it's not all innocent: One prominent toymaker, we learn, had frequent office parties with belly dancers. H.J.M.

THE WORST NOEL : HELLISH HOLIDAY TALES
(HarperCollins, $15)
Is Christmas so unassailably cheery that no one can commit to dissing it? Most of the essays in this collection hew roughly to the same formula: Urbanite with precocious child leaves city for holidays, marvels condescendingly at Bible Belt culture, rants about Santa/commercialism/the marginalization of Hanukkah ... then discovers Christmas isn't so bad after all. The whole affair has an inorganic feel; you can almost feel the writers struggling to cough up something in the David Sedaris vein. Only a few fulfill the comic promise of the title. Anne Patchett, whose stepfather was born on Dec. 25, finds Christmas replaced by an all-day birthday party thrown by her mother. And Neal Pollack's attempt to prepare a Smithfield ham ends in tragedy, with the majestic meat mutilated and thrown away.



➜ **FIRST LINE:** "A deer hit us."
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** Bitching about Christmas but secretly loving it.
HOLLY J. MORRIS (EXPRESS)

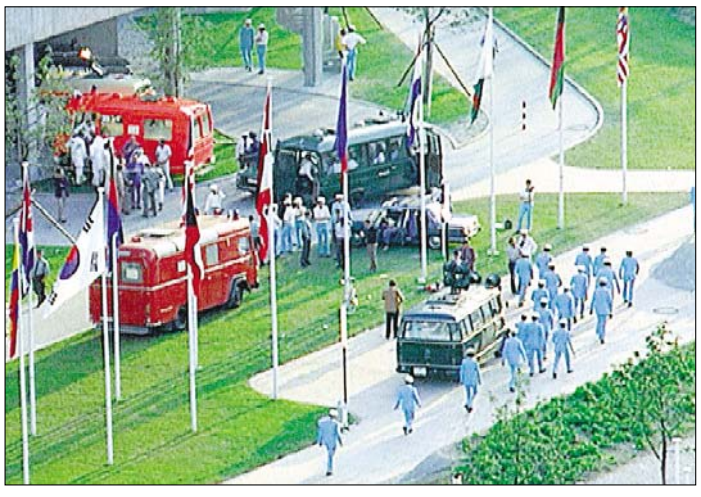
CDS

LIVE AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN NEW YEAR'S EVE 1995 *by Phish (JEMP/Rhino, $30)*
Halfway through its roughly 20-year run, Phish uncorked one of its finest nights, sealing its reputation as a jamband unparalleled in both eccentricity and popularity. Well-worn audience tapes of what Rolling Stone called one of the "17 Greatest Concerts of the '90s" should be replaced by this three-CD debut on the quartet's JEMP imprint. The time-lab tomfoolery that marks the New Year misses a visual context. But it's surrounded by levitating jams in a bracing cover of the Who's "Drowned," a bouncy jag through "Weekapaug Groove" and a deconstructed float through "You Enjoy Myself" that stand the test of time better than the group's in-joke narratives and barbershop harmonies. While it can never match Phish's millennial marathon in the Everglades, this three-set show is a broad sampler of what made the band unique — and far greater than the sum of its parts.
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** Ever-unfolding guitar solos, humor in music, the Dead.
➜ **IF YOU DON'T LIKE:** Top 40 polish, angst, inhibition. PAUL ROBICHEAU

What would Phish's Trey Anastasio look like without the facial hair?

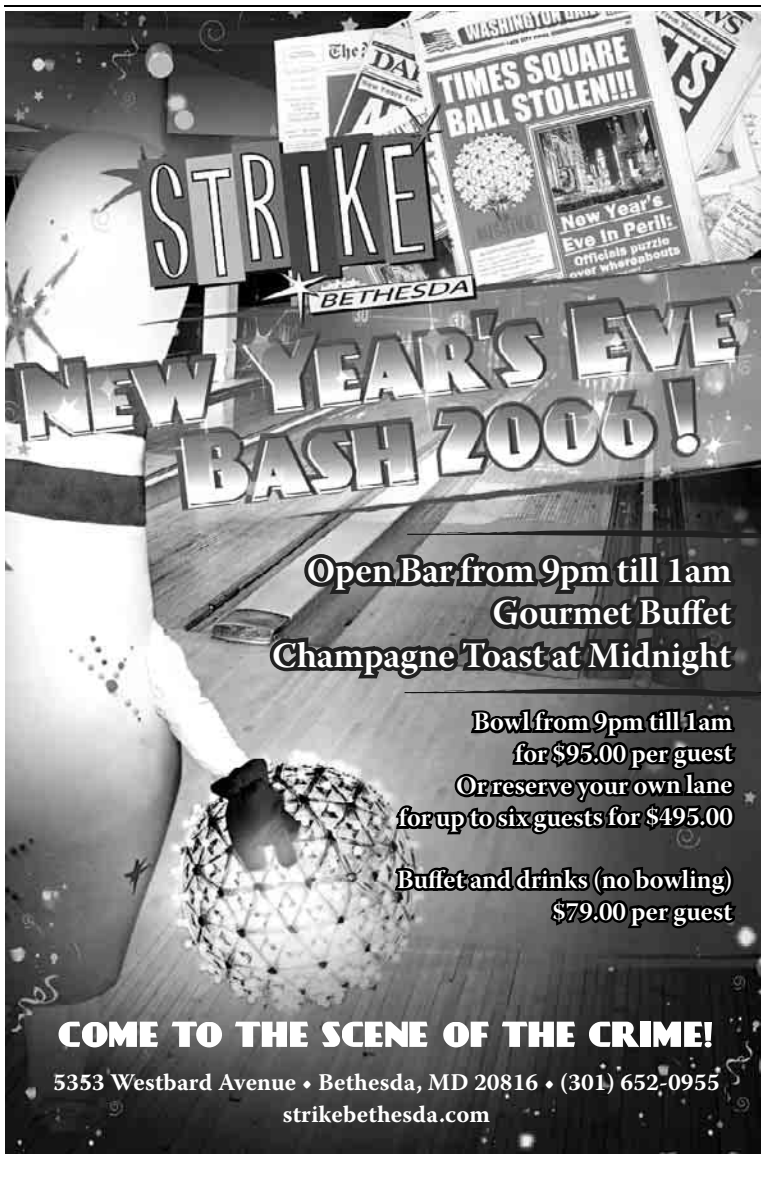
OUR NEW ORLEANS
(Nonesuch, $19)

Of the handful of benefit CDs out this season, none can compare to this one: 16 cuts by musicians who really know what it means to miss New Orleans, because most of them grew up there and/or still live there today. And without hitting you over the head with a musical sledgehammer, they've found classic songs that connect in deep and haunting ways to the current tragedy. Allen Touissant's self-composed "Yes We Can Can" quietly testifies to the power of moving forward, as does Eddie Bo's surprisingly jaunty "When the Saints Go Marching In," propelled by his piano. Irma Thomas, whose New Orleans home and nightclub were both flooded, has never sounded bluesier than when she bears witness to the anguish of modern-day New Orleanians by singing the 1927 song "Back Water Blues." The two biggest names on the CD are Dr. John and Randy Newman; the others are lesser-known but every bit as talented. The beauty of "Our New Orleans" is that it presents the equivalent of a stroll through the city in better days, when all sorts of wonderful music would waft out of bars, clubs, and restaurants, mingling with the sounds of street musicians.
➜ **NOTABLE EXTRA:** Proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity.
➜ **IF YOU LIKE:** Roots music, piano a la Dr. Longhair. MARC SILVER



Madness in Munich

Learn the history behind Steven Spielberg's "Munich," which opens today, with these new or rereleased DVDs.
➜ "One Day in September" ($20). The documentary, above, won an Oscar.
➜ "Our Greatest Hopes, Our Worst Fears: The Tragedy of the Munich Games" ($15). ESPN's new documentary on the event.
➜ "21 Hours at Munich" ($20). A TV movie from 1976 about the horrors.



BLACK CAT
1811 14TH ST NW
www.blackcatdc.com

DECEMBER SHOWS
THU 22 MESS UP THE MESS, LEMONFACE $5
FRI 23 THE BETTER THAN YOUR OFFICE HOLIDAY PARTY PARTY W/ DJS DENNIS KANE, CHAD AMERICA, DJ DRIBBLE, DJ ROULETTE, JUNEBULLET, DJ DIXIE CRYSTAL, CHUCK, MATT BROWN, BRIAN BAKER, AND DANTE, GEOFF & MARK FROM GRAY MATTER $FREE!!
FRI 23 BLACK CATATONIA: W/ TURNTABLIST DJ DK $FREE
SAT 24 SHEE BOPP W/ DJ MELLI MEL $FREE
SUN 25 THE RETURN OF HICKORY DAVE'S HONKY TONK CHRISTMAS $FREE
RED ROOM BAR OPENS AT 9PM W/ NO COVER
MON 26 RED ROOM BAR & FOOD FOR THOUGHT CAFE OPEN AT 8PM
TUE 27 THE TWATS, THE AKS $5
WED 28 SARAH AZZARA, SKELP $5
THU 29 TRANS AM THE APES, RAH BRAS
FRI 30 PREFUSE 73 TYONDAI BRAXTON $15
SAT 31 BLACK CAT NEW YEARS EVE BALL $20 W/ PEACHES O'DELL & HER ORCHESTRA

JANUARY 2006!
SAT 7 SUPERSYSTEM FRENCH TOAST, RIS PAUL RIC
TUE 10 TRAVIS MORRISON HELLFIGHTERS
THU 12 THE EXPLOSION
SAT 14 THE MOUSETRAP BRITPOP DANCE NIGHT $9
SUN 15 CRAIG WEDREN (EX-SHUDDER TO THINK)
WED 18 KOSHARI, THE FALLEN ONE $5
FRI 20 CRYFEST- CURE VS. SMITHS
SAT 21 ERIC ROBERSON
THU 26 CALLA $8
FRI 27 THE MOONEY SUZUKI $10
SAT 28 DEERHOOF

CONCERT-LINE 202-667-7960

THU DEC 29

WE ARE 3 BLOCKS FROM THE UST/CARDOZO METRO STATION
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM TICKETMASTER @ 202.397.SEAT

WhereTo...

IN SEARCH OF WHAT YOU WANT TO DO, BUT DON'T KNOW ABOUT YET

... Go Dec. 25

➜ National Menorah Lighting. After tearing open the presents, croaking out a few more carols and stuffing yourself with fruitcake, take a breather from Christmas. Or, watch your movie and make your reservations for Chinese food later. Get ready for some speeches, tunes, kiddie activities and, of course, fire. *The Ellipse, 1600 Constitution Ave. NW; Sun., 4 p.m., free but tickets are required; 202-332-5600. (Federal Triangle)*

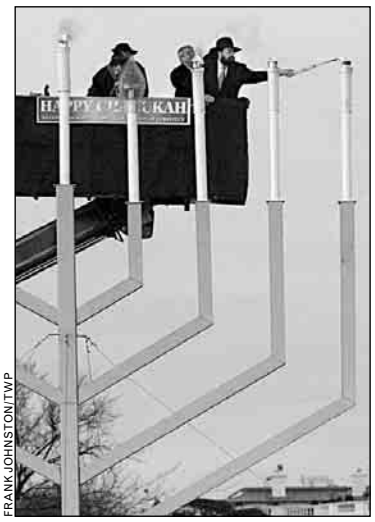
➜ Family Fun Day. Or, you can get lit indoors! Crafts, snacks, music and candles are on tap for the afternoon. *Sixth and I Historic Synagogue, 600 I St. NW; Sun., 2 p.m.-4 p.m., $3; 202-789-0900; sixthandi.org. (Gallery Place)*

➜ All-Star Christmas Day Jazz Jam. Most stuff closes on Christmas, but not the Millennium Stage, which keeps up the freebie performances 365 days a year. The eighth annual jazz celebration takes on a memorial theme, as the late bassist Keter Betts had hosted the event since the beginning. *Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Sun., 6 p.m., free; 202-467-4600; kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)*

... Date

➜ The Jim Henson Company: 50 Years of Myth and Magic. Hope your babysitter's better than Jennifer Connelly's character in "Labyrinth," who accidentally banishes her little brother to David Bowie's evil maze. But forget about the kids and just savor the adult-friendly puppetry brilliance of Henson. Also on view are "The Dark Crystal" (Henson's even darker masterpiece) and several shorts. *AFI Silver, 8633 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring; Tue. though Thu., Jan. 5, $6.75-$9.25; 301-495-6720; afi.com/silver. (Silver Spring)*

➜ What I Like About Jew. Join in the Jew-bilation as Rockapella founder Sean Altman and Blender Magazine editor Rob Tannenbaum bring their musical rev-Jew to town. If you miss the show tonight, or if you're hoping to spend as many nights of Hannukah with them as possible, they'll be on the following evening at the Rams Head Tavern in Annapolis. *Birchmere Music Hall, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; Mon., 7:30 p.m. $17.50; 202-397-7328; birchmere.com.*



FRANK JOHNSTON/TWP

These are professional rabbis in cherry pickers! Please do not try this at home.

➜ BETTY. Your boss is vacationing on some tropical island, so you're entitled to expand your lunch break with a mini concert from the D.C.-born rock trio, who are in town to perform in their off-Broadway musical, "BETTY RULES." Your hooky-playing soundtrack will be tunes from "Snowbiz," their new holiday album. *Olsson's Dupont Circle, 1307 19th St. NW; Wed., 1:30 p.m., free; 202-785-1133; olssons.com. (Dupont Circle)*

➜ Christian Finnegan. Perhaps you're familiar with his comedic work on VH1's "Best Week Ever," but tonight, remember him for his suggestion on match.com to use "the save" when dating. This involves not apologizing for saying something utterly idiotic, but instead making a joke out it. You may recognize this move from President Bush's attempts to woo the American people. It may also get you the next date. *The Improv, 1140 Connecticut Ave. NW; Thu. through Sat., Dec. 31, $15-$75, 202-296-7008; dcimprov.com. (Dupont Circle)*

➜ Matzo Ball. If eggnog isn't your thing and a Christmas ham sounds a little too tref, head over to one of D.C.'s Jewish singles party this weekend. The name might be lame, but Jews still come out in droves when there's a chance to sign off of J-Date and actually meet other singles. *Lulu's Club Mardi Gras, 1217 M St. NW; Sat., 8 p.m.-2 .am., $25; 888-633-5326; matzoball.org. (GWU-Foggy Bottom)*

➜ Gefilte Fish Gala. The 12th annual Gefilte Fish Gala picks up the next night. Billed as the biggest event for Jews in town, the party will rival even the most def rapping Hassid, plus there's no cover, minus the $5 suggested donation to the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Help out a good cause and get crunked. It's what Hanukkah Harry would want you to do. *Polly Esther's, 605 12th St. NW; Sun., 8 p.m, $5; 202-737-1970; gefiltefishgala.com. (Metro Center)*

RICKY CARIOTI/TWP

Slaloming Santa

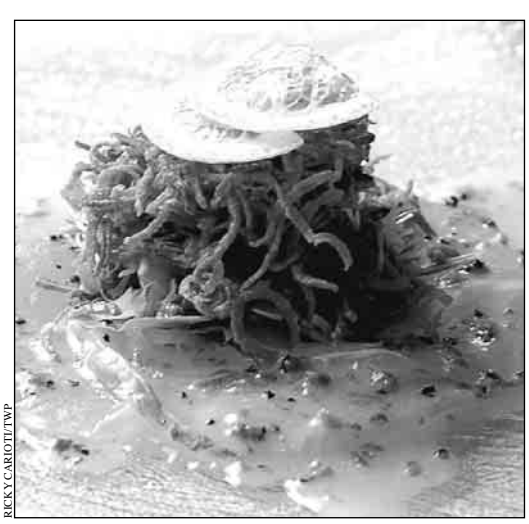
SANTA CLAUS LIKES SNOW JUST FINE, but when it's melted, that's even better because he can indulge in what he really loves: water sports. For the 20th year, Water-Skiing Santa will wow crowds, aided by his trusty knee-boarding reindeer and a Grinch on a jet ski. It was going to be the jolly fat man's last ride, but Rudolph is still in training to take over, so instead of retiring, Santa's celebrating. In honor of the big anniversary, this will be the first year all nine reindeer will be on hand, and the special guest of the year is Tai Shan, who will be sporting a large bow in honor of the holidays. Columbia Island Marina, off George Washington Parkway, Arlington; Sat., 1 p.m., free; 703-280-1788; waterskiingsanta.com.

... Take Kids

➜ Alexander, Who's Not Not Not Going to Move. The anti-hero of Judith Viorst's kids' book "Alexander and The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" stars in a musical written by Viorst. His family is moving and he doesn't approve. Such negativity! *Kennedy Center, Terrace Theater, 2700 F St. NW; Fri. and Dec. 26-30; 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., $15; 202-467-4600; kennedy-center.org. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)*

➜ Christmas Eve Farmer's Market. Safeway, 7-11 and Wawa may do in a pinch for last-minute gifts (see page T4), but when only goodies straight from the countryside will do, rise and shine early for fresh veggies, fruits and baked yumminess. *Market Square, Old Town Alexandria; Sat., 5 a.m.-10 a.m., free; 703-838-5006. (King Street)*

➜ Sleepover With the Sharks. Ditch the holiday houseguests for creatures not quite so demanding. Not only do you sleep in the National Aquarium's underwater shark viewing area, you're treated to a behind-



RICKY CARIOTI/TWP

So You May Eat

OPENTABLE.COM CAN BE a force for good, but it is all too frequently used for evil — as in the case of Restaurant Week (Jan. 9 -15), when nefarious characters double or even triple-book reservations so they can choose at the very last minute whether they'd like a $30.06 three-course meal at Tosca, 1789 or Sushi Ko (that's its Flounder Carpaccio at left). Because of this growing scourge, you'd better snag your tables soon or you'll find your posse scarfing down a meal at 5:15 at a place where you'd never even consider spending that much for din-din. Peruse the list of who's participating (and whether they're offering dinner and/or lunch: that's $20.06) at washington.org/restaurantwk. Several recently opened places are joining in, including drinx, Rasika and Zengo.

the-scenes tour (see where and what the sharks are fed) and kid-geared activities (like a visit to the Shark Discovery Lab, where you can make necklaces out of shark teeth). Plus, dinner and breakfast. *Ages 8 and up. 501 East Pratt St., Baltimore; Mon., 5 p.m.-9 p.m., $69 adults, $65 seniors, $59 kids 8-11; reservations required, 410-576-3833; aqua.org.*

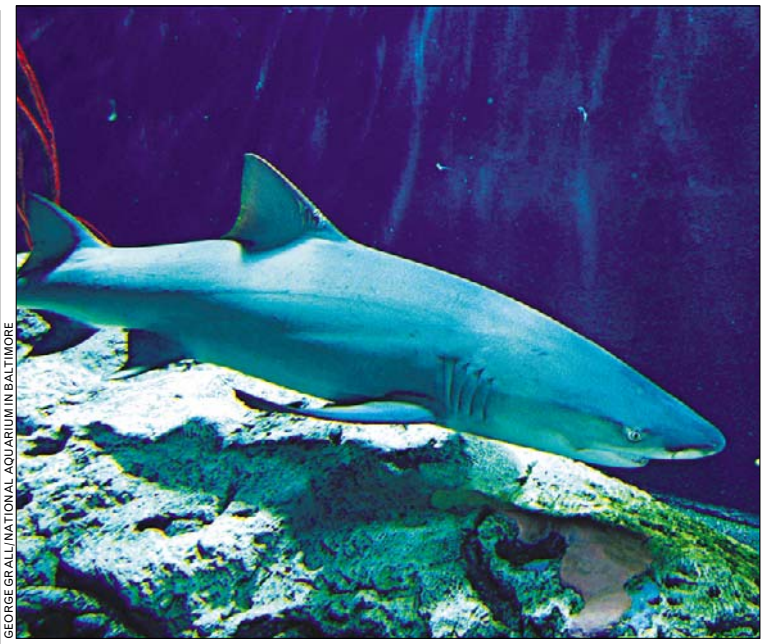
➜ Art at Home Holiday Tour. Without early exposure to high art, your child will never get into Princeton. This Phillips Collection tour introduces kids to the permanent collection through role-playing and other hands-on activities, thus ensuring their future. *1600 21st St. NW; Tues., 9 a.m.-10:15 a.m., $15 each child/adult pair, $5 each additional child; to register, call 202-387-2151 x260 or e-mail programs@phillipscollection.org. (Dupont Circle)*

➜ Evita. After explaining to your children that "The Nutcracker" was canceled and you couldn't get them tickets to see the witches of "Wicked," let them cry their tears. And then surprise them with tix to a musical with another powerful lady. Tell the older ones there's more sex involved. The stage show doesn't have Madonna and Antonio Banderas like the movie, but that's for the best. *Warner Theatre, 1299 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; Tue. through Jan. 1, $45-$75; 202-783-4000; warnertheatre.com. (Metro Center)*

... Help

➜ The Holiday Project of the National Capital Area. Bring the cheer to nursing homes and hospitals on Dec. 25. Kids and pets are welcome on some visits, and last-minute sign-ups are just fine. Contact the team leader for each visit to join. They're listed at holidayproject.org. Or call 703-370-0370 for information.

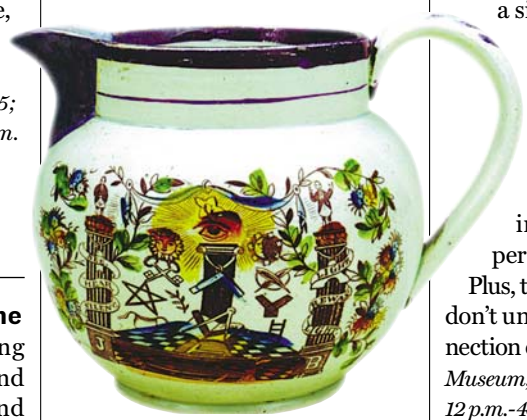
➜ Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry. Volunteer gift-wrappers are needed for four-hour shifts at NOVAM's gift-wrapping table at Ballston Common Mall. *4238 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; through Dec. 24, 12 p.m.-9 p.m.; contact Stefan at 703-533-5505, x13 or stefan@novam.org to volunteer; novam.org. (Ballston)*



GEORGE GRALL/NATIONAL AQUARIUM IN BALTIMORE

Which savage creatures would your child rather go to a sleepover with: sharks at Baltimore's National Aquarium, or 13 nine-year-old girls in one room?

➜ December 25th Community Service Day. This is the biggie. There will be 1,000 volunteers at 60 sites helping 5,000 all day long all over the city. You can do whatever volunteering thing floats your boat, from giving blood to visiting sick children to painting shelters. And if you're already booked but still want to pitch in, they're collecting toys, toiletries and warm clothing until Saturday. *Sun., 6 a.m.-8 p.m., $18 donation; 202-518-9400, ext. 565; dcjcc.org.*



To a conspiracy theorist, this Masonic jug is a Secret Ruler of the World.

... Learn

➜ National Museum of the American Indian. The other Smithsonians lay off the special programs for the holidays, but the NMAI has the whole week mapped out. On Monday, Andean rock/jazz/pop act the Mystic Warriors perform; Tuesday is Hawaiian dance; Wednesday is Lakota/Kiowa-Apache storytelling, and so on through Jan. 1. *4th Street and Independence Avenue SW; 12 p.m. and 2 p.m., free; 202-633-1000; nmai.si.edu. (L'Enfant Plaza)*

➜ The Gig. Soon your kiddies will be down with the rock star lingo. This inaugural event for the National Music Center offers free lessons on how to tickle the ivories, strum a six string, work the turntables and pen hip-hop lyrics. If it seems your child was not blessed with a musical inclination, you can sit back and watch the professionals, including a ukelele-playing rapper and Chinese lion dancers. Plus, there are crafts, although we don't understand the musical connection of Romanian icons. *The City Museum, 801 K St. NW; Mon. and Tues., 12 p.m.-4 p.m., free; 202-833-2344. (Mt. Vernon Square)*

➜ The Initiated Eye: Secrets, Symbols, Freemasonry and the Architecture of Washington, D.C. You dig "The Da Vinci Code." You can't wait for Dan Brown's new book on the Masons. Then you need to hightail it to this exhibit on the Masonic elements all over our fair city's buildings before it closes. *The Octagon Museum, 1799 New York Ave. NW; through Sat., Dec. 31, closed Mon. and Christmas, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; $5, adults, $3 children and seniors; 202-638-3221; initiatedeye.com. (Farragut West or North)*

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Jason Armas, Pamela de Jesus

Jason and Pamela are both claims adjustors for State Farm Fire and Casualty Company. They will live in Annandale.

WEDDING: A semi-formal day wedding on Jan. 14 in Syosset, N.Y.
HONEYMOON: "We're thinking about Miami, then hopping on a cruise to the Caribbean."
HOW THEY MET: At work. "Jason sat in the cubicle behind me; no one knew we were dating except our bosses."
FIRST DATE: Miniature golf
HOW HE PROPOSED: "He gave me a watch for my birthday. Tucked inside the watch box was the engagement ring."
STUPIDEST FIGHT: "The last argument we had was who sings the song, 'Whoomp! There It Is!' He was right."
WEDDING TRADITIONS: The two will exchange silver coins called arrhae, a Filipino wedding tradition.
BIGGEST FEAR: "The Blizzard of 2006 dumps two feet of snow on our wedding day."
MMM, CAKE: A four-tier cake filled with vanilla custard and strawberries.
WITH AN INFINITE BUDGET ... "We'd have a live band."

> "Jason drove to my parents' house three times to [tell them] he was going to propose."

Whatever the Weather

There's no sedate honeymoon cruise on the horizon for **KATHERINE STAHLER** and **DOUGLAS HILDERBRAND:** Doug is a meteorologist with a fondness for severe weather. "Early in our relationship, we made a deal that I would go storm-chasing with Doug in Oklahoma — but for every day we spent in the Midwest, we had to spend a day someplace tropical. That plan soon became our honeymoon," said Katie.

The two met at Pentagon City Mall, where Katie was sporting a Bucknell T-shirt. Doug, an alum, stopped to say hello. Early on, Katie told her mom that he "was either the man I was going to marry or the man who was going to break my heart." It was (obviously) the former, and the two will marry in a white-tie ceremony on April 29. Doug wants to avoid blame for any inclement weather on the big day. "It better be warm and sunny," he said.

Katherine, 24, is the assistant to a vice president of a biotech trade organization. Doug, 32, is a meteorologist at the National Weather Service. They will marry in Alexandria, where they live.

Ryan Hackel, Evelyn Riemer

Ryan, 24, is a naval architect, as is Evelyn, 22. They live in Arlington.

WEDDING: A traditional Jewish ceremony with 50 family members and friends on March 16 in Alexandria.
MAKING IT UNIQUE: "No videographer, no wedding favors, no engraved mementos or trinkets, no color schemes or seating charts, just the elements of a simple wedding experience."
FIRST IMPRESSIONS: Evelyn was shocked at how clean Ryan's dorm room was. (They both attended the Webb Institute in Glen Cove, N.Y.) "She didn't know college guys could be that clean!"

> "We're not sure whose mother will cry first, but ... it will be an entertaining race!"

FIRST DATE: Browsing the galleries at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.
HOW HE PROPOSED: Back at the Met. "I felt like I was only on my knee for a few seconds, and before I knew it, Evelyn had already taken the ring out of the box, put it on and picked me off the floor in an embrace," said Ryan.
FAMILY TRADITIONS: Evelyn's family has a tradition of making veils.
HOW HE KNEW: "About a year and a half ago, I realized that Evelyn had become an important part of my life, and I could not envision the future without her."

Ron Allen, Tiffani Whitehead

Ron, 29, is an attorney. Tiffani, 27, is a senior manager at America Online. They will live in Herndon.

WEDDING: A Catholic ceremony on March 18 in Chantilly, followed by a reception for 200 guests.
HONEYMOON: A no-kids-allowed resort in Cancun.
HOW THEY MET: At the now-defunct Murali Italian Bistro. Tiffani was celebrating a friend's birthday and Ron was trying to take his mind off his bar exam results, scheduled to arrive days later.
FATE? "We pulled out our cellphones to exchange numbers and noticed we both had the same carrier. At least we could talk for free!"
HOW HE PROPOSED: On Valentine's Day at Tiffani's home, after nasty weather forced them to cancel dinner plans in D.C.

MOST HATED CLOTHING ITEM: "UGG BOOTS! Don't get me wrong, she looks good. However, I don't think it's necessary to get a pair in every color of the rainbow."
STUPIDEST FIGHT: "We decided to get in shape and change our diet. Tiff wanted ice cream; I put my foot down. This led to a four-hour argument."
HOW SHE KNEW: "He actually courted me during our relationship, which I thought men no longer did."
WEDDING STYLE: A play on the bride's name, Tiffany blue is the dominant color.
BIGGEST FEAR: "My friends won't leave the bar until the sun comes up," said Ron.

Getting Married? If you'd like to see your wedding or commitment ceremony in B.I.O., send your favorite informal photo (wacky is fine, but please don't send a formal engagement shot), plus your names, contact info and the ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. We'll contact you with some questions as your big day approaches. Our space is limited, but we'll do our best to include as many as we can.

Samurai SU DO KU

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: WELTERWEIGHT

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Last Week's Solution

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9	7	3	2	1	8	6	4	5				8	4	3	6	9	7	1	5	2

How to Play

The rules of Samurai Sudoku are the same as in the popular Sudoku puzzles that appear in Express and The Washington Post.

As with standard Sudoku, the Samurai version requires no math, just logic, reasoning ... and an iron will. The goal is to fill in each column, row and 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9 without repeating any. The twist in Samurai Sudoku is that the digits that appear in the overlapping boxes must work for both puzzles.

A piece of advice to get you started: Don't focus on completing one grid at a time. Keep the whole puzzle in mind as you go, because filling in a number in one grid could give you clues to another. As always, there's only one solution, which will appear in next week's edition of LookOut Weekend.

Can't get enough Sudoku? Find a standard Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section every Monday through Saturday.

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EVERY FRIDAY AT NATION

THIS Friday, December 23rd
Get your free picture taken with
SCOTT HENRY as BAD SANTA
along with AMANDA and LAUREN as the NAUGHTY ELVES

MAIN ROOM

FEELGOOD
(djfeelgood.com, Baltimore)

FRONT ROOM

AK1200
(Planet of The Drums, Orlando)

Friday, December 30th
NEW YEARS EVE SQUARED

Back by popular demand, Buzzlife is letting you choose the the local DJ talent that will play at Cubik on New Year's Eve SQUARED. All the fun of New Year's Eve in a not so traditional way on our schedule. Cubik's NYE celebration will happen the night before most club's festivities at a very reasonable price. Countdown, balloon-drop, party hats, noise-makers and a champagne toast will all happen at our 2 AM count-down. No more rushing to to get to the club before midnight. Celebrate New years the Buzzlife way.

DJ RAP and SCOTT HENRY will be rocking the decks in the main room. RAP will be playing TWO sets. A house set in the main room with SCOTT and a dnb set in the front room. The Twix DJ spokeswoman will be earning her keep tonight!

The full club with all balconies will be open to make sure you have a safe, comfortable, and Happy New Years.

MAIN ROOM

SCOTT HENRY
(Ultra Records, Buzzlife, Fever)

DJ RAP
B2B HOUSE/DNB SETS!
(Proper Talent, Improper Talent, UK)

Friday, January 6th
"THESE ARE THE BREAKS"

MAIN ROOM

LEE COOMBS
(Thrust, Perfecto, UK)

DYLAN RHYMES
(Kingsize, UK)

DANIELLA DOWNS
(SCION Battle of the DJs 2nd Place Winner)

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